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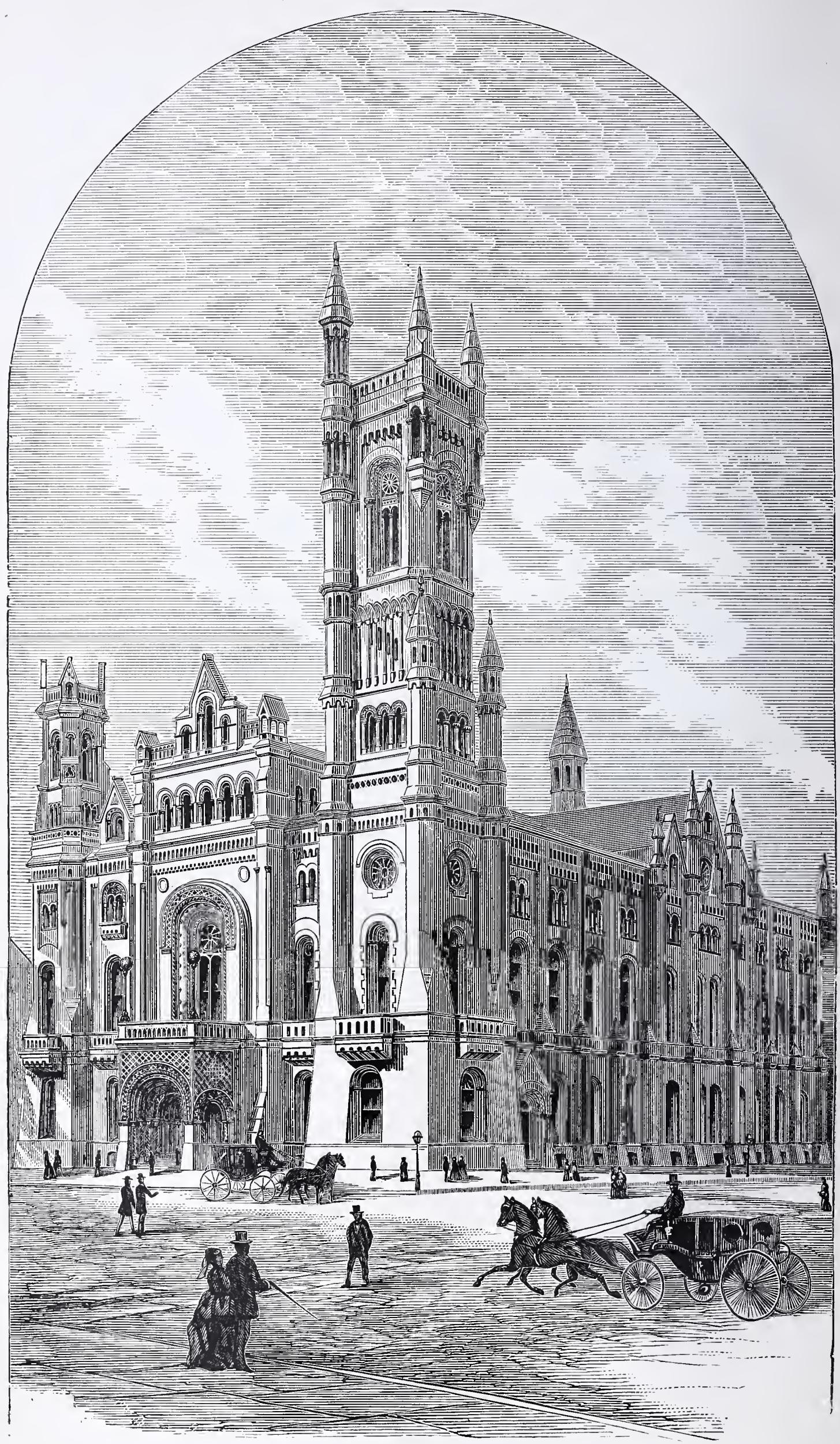




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...PROCEEDINGS...

—OF THE—

MOST EXCELLENT GRAND

Holy Royal Arch Chapter

OF PENNSYLVANIA

—AND—

MASONIC JURISDICTION THEREUNTO BELONGING,

FOR THE YEAR ENDING DECEMBER 27, 1893,  
BEING ITS NINETY-EIGHTH YEAR.

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PHILADELPHIA:

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Edgar A. Dennis

M.E. Grand High Priest.

1893-1894.



GRAND  
Holy Royal Arch Chapter  
OF PENNSYLVANIA.

1795—1893.

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QUARTERLY COMMUNICATION,

HELD AT

Masonic Temple, Philadelphia, March 2, 1893.

PRESENT:

Comp. EDGAR A. TENNIS, . . . . .	<i>M. E. Grand High Priest.</i>
" EZRA S. BARTLETT, . . . . .	<i>M. E. Grand King.</i>
" RICHARD M. JOHNSON, . . . . .	<i>M. E. Grand Scribe.</i>
" THOMAS R. PATTON, . . . . .	<i>M. E. Grand Treasurer.</i>
" CHARLES E. MEYER, . . . . .	<i>M. E. Grand Secretary.</i>

*District Deputy Grand High Priests.*—Comps. THADDEUS S. ADLE, JOHN B. SPRENKEL, W. K. JONES, M. W. REINOEHL, C. F. DERR, S. H. APPLETON, MARTIN L. SHAFFNER, and the other Grand Officers in their respective places.

*Past Grand High Priests.*—Comps. CHARLES E. MEYER, HIBBERT P. JOHN, GEORGE W. KENDRICK, JR., JAMES S. BARBER, MATTHIAS H. HENDERSON.

Chapters Nos. 3, 21, 43, 52, 91, 150, 152, 161, 169, 173, 174, 175, 180, 183, 190, 191, 193, 194, 196, 197, 198, 199, 201, 202, 208, 209, 216, 220,

221, 222, 228, 232, 233, 234, 237, 240, 243, 246, 248, 250, 251, 252, 257, 258, 262, 263.

The Grand Chapter was honored with the presence of M. E. Comp. Edward Mills, Grand High Priest of the Grand Chapter of New Jersey.

The Grand Chapter opened in ancient and solemn form at seven o'clock P.M.

The Minutes of the Quarterly Communication held December 8, 1892, and of the Annual Communication held December 27, 1892, were read and approved.

Amendments to the By-Laws were received from the following Chapters, Nos. 173, 182, 203, 208, 212 and 238, and referred to the Committee on By-Laws.

General returns were received from a number of Chapters and Mark Lodges.

Ordered to be entered and filed.

A petition was read from a number of Royal Arch Masons residing at Catasaqua, Lehigh county, for a new Chapter at that place. On motion, referred to the Grand Officers with power to act.

The amendment to the Constitution, postponed until this Quarterly Communication, was then considered, and, on motion, indefinitely postponed.

The Committee on Work and Jurisprudence reported verbally that they had carefully examined and

corrected the work of Capitular Masonry as taught in the Temple School of Instruction of Philadelphia, M. E. Grand Scribe Comp. Richard M. Johnson, Instructor, and had approved the same, and that the M. E. Grand High Priest had authorized said work to be taught as the true work of Royal Arch Masonry in Pennsylvania.

The Committee on By-Laws presented the following report, which was on motion received and the resolutions adopted:

*To the M. E. Grand High Priest, Officers and Members of the M. E. Grand Holy Royal Arch Chapter of Pennsylvania:*

BROTHERS AND COMPANIONS:—Your Committee on By-Laws having carefully examined the various amendments to By-Laws submitted to them beg leave to report the following:

Chapter No. 208 proposes an amendment to their By-Laws which is in violation of Section 27 of the Constitution, and therefore cannot be approved, but to accomplish that which the Chapter desires we offer the following:

*Resolved*, That the proposed amendment to the By-Laws of Chapter No. 208 be amended by substituting the following in the place of the proposed amendment: "Subject to the provisions of Section 80 of the Constitution," and as thus amended the same be approved.

In relation to the proposed amendment to the By-Laws of Chapter No. 212, we have written for information to said Chapter, and, not having received any reply, we are not prepared to make any report at present.

*Resolved*, That the proposed amendments to the By-Laws of Chapters Nos. 173, 182, 203 and 238 be approved.

*Resolved*, That the proposed By-Laws of Chapter No. 275 be approved.

Fraternally submitted,

J. ALEXANDER SIMPSON,

PHILADELPHIA, March 2, 1893.

*Chairman.*

The Special Committee on the General Grand Chapter reported verbally that they would have their report ready at the next Quarterly Communication.

The Grand Chapter was then "called off" for the purpose of exemplifying the Mark Master Mason's degree.

A Lodge of Mark Master Masons was then opened, and the degree of Mark Master Mason was exemplified by the Grand Officers.

The Chapter of Mark Master Masons was then closed.

The Grand Chapter was then "called on."

The Grand Chapter was closed in peace at nine o'clock and forty-five minutes P.M.

CHARLES E. MEYER,

*Grand Secretary.*

## QUARTERLY COMMUNICATION,

## HELD AT

Masonic Temple, Philadelphia, June 8, 1893.

## PRESENT :

Comp. EDGAR A. TENNIS, . . . . .	<i>M. E. Grand High Priest.</i>
" EZRA S. BARTLETT, . . . . .	<i>M. E. Grand King.</i>
" RICHARD M. JOHNSON, . . . . .	<i>M. E. Grand Scribe.</i>
" THOMAS R. PATTON, . . . . .	<i>M. E. Grand Treasurer.</i>
" CHARLES E. MEYER, . . . . .	<i>M. E. Grand Secretary.</i>

*District Deputy Grand High Priests.*—Comps. THADDEUS S. ADLE, M. W. JACOBS, JOHN B. SPRENKEL, WILLIAM K. JONES, S. H. APPLETON, JOHN M. VAN VLIET, GEORGE P. LINDSAY, and the other Grand Officers in their respective places.

*Past Grand High Priests.*—Comps. CHARLES E. MEYER, HIBBERT P. JOHN, GEORGE W. KENDRICK, JR., MATTHIAS H. HENDERSON, JAMES S. BARBER, AUGUSTUS R. HALL.

Chapters Nos. 3, 43, 52, 91, 150, 152, 169, 174, 175, 180, 183, 208, 214, 219, 220, 223, 232, 233, 234, 237, 239, 240, 243, 244, 248, 250, 256, 263.

The Grand Chapter was opened in ancient and solemn form at seven o'clock P.M.

The Minutes of the Quarterly Communication of March 2, 1893, were read and approved.

Amendments to By-Laws of Chapters Nos. 52, 152, 161, 176, 177, 182, 207 and 240 were received and referred to the Committee on By-Laws.

Missives were received from the Grand High Priests of the following Grand Chapters appointing the following Companions as Grand Representatives of their Grand Chapter, near the Grand Chapter of Pennsylvania :

Grand Chapter of the Indian Territory appointing Comp. Richard M. Johnson ; Colorado, Comp. Samuel W. Latta ; New Hampshire, Comp. Joseph Eichbaum ; West Virginia, Comp. John C. Wallace ; Nevada, Comp. Isaac N. Grubb.

On motion, the Companions were received and acknowledged as such.

The M. E. Grand High Priest announced that District Deputy Grand High Priest Comp. William L. Connell had tendered his resignation, and that he had appointed Comp. Frederick L. Brown in his stead over District No. 16.

The Special Committee to whom had been referred the communication from the General Grand Chapter reported as follows :

*To the Most Excellent Grand High Priest and the Grand Holy Royal Arch Chapter of Pennsylvania :*

SIRS AND COMPANIONS :—Your Committee, appointed at the Quarterly Communication held on December 8 last, to consider, and to report upon the following invitation of the General Grand Chapter of Royal Arch Masons of the United States of America to the Most Excellent Grand Chapters of Pennsylvania and Virginia, to become constituent members of the said General Grand Chapter, respectfully report :

*"The General Grand Chapter of Royal Arch Masons of the United States of America, by its Council of Grand Officers thereunto specially directed and empowered, to the Most Excellent, the Grand High Priests, Officers and Companions of the Most Excellent Grand Chapters of Pennsylvania and Virginia, sends this with its most affectionate and fraternal greeting.*

"BELOVED COMPANIONS:—At the twenty-eighth stated Convocation of the General Grand Chapter of Royal Arch Masons of the United States of America, held at the Masonic Temple, in the city of Minneapolis, Minnesota, on Thursday, the 23d day of July, 1891, by the unanimous vote of said General Grand Chapter, the undersigned were 'designated and empowered to prepare a letter from the General Grand Chapter to the Grand Chapters of Pennsylvania and Virginia, urging upon them the importance of becoming constituent members of this General Grand Body, thereby uniting and solidifying the Royal Craft of the United States of America into one common band, owing allegiance to one common head, thereby consummating an event devoutly wished for by the rank and file of Capitular Masons throughout this broad land of ours for many years past,' (see printed Proceedings, pp. 152, 153).

"The General Grand Chapter sees approaching in the near future the centennial anniversary of its organization, and before its arrival desires to see all Royal Arch Masons of our beloved Union united under her banners; and not only has that always been its deepest wish, but seats in its Convocations have ever been open to the representatives of the Most Excellent Grand Chapters of Pennsylvania and Virginia, and under the present Constitution of the General Grand Chapter your delegates will find our doors thrown wide open for their admission long before they are near enough to knock.

"As a question of expediency, whether it is worth while for the Most Excellent Grand Chapters of Pennsylvania and Virginia to unite with the General Grand Chapter, as proposed by the invitation of the latter, we do not think that our Companions of those States should hesitate an instant. If every Companion of those two jurisdictions thought otherwise, he should allow his conclusions to be influenced and overruled by the immense majority against him, for this unanimous invitation that we now present and urge comes from forty-two Grand Chapters, all peers of your own, representing more than one hundred and forty thousand individual Royal Arch Masons, who unite in representing to you that it is to the interest of the *Royal Craft* that you unite with us.

"We do not think that we should put our insistence on your acceptance of the invitation of the General Grand Chapter upon any other ground

than this: *the general good of the Royal Craft*; the vast body of Royal Arch Masons have spoken in a most unanimous manner to tell you what they think should be your action in the premises, and their great desire that you should not only be *with us*, but *of us*; and yet as countrymen, as brethren, and as Companions, we cannot hide our eyes from the political significance of the spectacle of two Most Excellent Grand Royal Arch Chapters *in the United States* standing aloof from union *with* the General Grand Chapter of the *United States*, and that without any plausible reason which can be explained either to profane or initiate.

“ By this union no powers are sought to be taken from your Most Excellent Grand Chapters, which are nothing more or less than the peer of our constituent Grand Chapters, and no other duties are sought to be imposed than your forty-two peers have so long conceded and rendered to the General Grand Chapter, and that in its life of nearly one hundred years have never been complained of or felt to be burdensome or oppressive.

“ We present to the Most Excellent the Grand Chapters of Pennsylvania and Virginia the invitation of the General Grand Chapter of Royal Arch Masons of the United States of America to unite themselves with it, as heretofore set forth, so that we may be all members of one body, from Canada to the Gulf and extending between the Atlantic and Pacific Oceans.

“ Done at New Orleans, Louisiana, this 4th day of July, 1892, A.I. 2422.

“ JOSEPH P. HORNOR, *General Grand High Priest.*

“ GEORGE L. McCAHAN, *Dep. Gen. Grand High Priest.*

“ REUBEN C. LEMMON, *General Grand King.*

“ JAMES W. Taylor, *General Grand Scribe.*

Attest: CHRISTOPHER G. FOX, *General Grand Secretary.*”

That they have carefully considered the reasons advanced in support of the invitation, and that they are unable to reach the conclusion that it would be either wise or proper to comply with the request so eloquently and so fraternally presented to us, not only in the letter, but also in the able address of Comp. George L. McCahan, the Deputy General Grand High Priest, made in the Grand Chapter in December last.

We join the General Grand Chapter in its happy anticipations of the centennial of its organization, but we also hope that in the satisfaction and pleasure connected with so important an event our Companions will not overlook the fact that *we* shall celebrate our centennial just three years sooner than they will do theirs, the Grand Chapter of Pennsylvania having been organized in November 25, 1795; and we trust that on

the anniversary of that date we shall be honored with a fraternal visit by representatives of the General Grand Chapter.

In the consideration of this subject we must not lose sight of the differences between the systems of Freemasonry as practiced in Pennsylvania, and in the several jurisdictions under the immediate control of the General Grand Chapter.

It is a fact well known in Masonic history that before the organization of Chapters of Royal Arch Masons in Pennsylvania, the several degrees of Capitular Masonry were conferred under the warrants of subordinate Lodges of Free and Accepted, Ancient York Masons, constituted by the authority of the Grand Lodge of Pennsylvania, and that for many years after the organization of the Grand Chapter of Pennsylvania, the Right Worshipful Grand Master and the several other officers of the Grand Lodge were, by virtue of their several stations, the officers of the Grand Chapter.

When a final and complete severance of the two bodies was had, on December 20, 1824, the Right Worshipful Grand Lodge retained under its authority and control what is known as the Past Master's degree, surrendering to the Grand Chapter the control of the Royal Arch degree: the conferring of the Mark and Most Excellent Masters' degrees having been permitted by constitutional enactment.

Under the system as practiced in the jurisdictions subordinate to the General Grand Chapter, all the degrees named are conferred by the several Chapters, and no union of our Grand Chapter with the General Grand Chapter could be effected without a previous consent of the Right Worshipful Grand Lodge of Pennsylvania.

Whether such a readjustment would have the approval of the Grand Lodge was not considered by us, because of the conclusions reached, that the suggested union was neither wise nor expedient, but as an indication of the probable views of the Grand Lodge upon this question, we beg to remind you of the resolution adopted by the Grand Lodge on September 7, 1812, in view of the attempt of the General Grand Chapter to organize in our jurisdiction a Mark Lodge under a dispensation granted on December 19, 1811, in which the Grand Lodge condemned all meetings under such dispensation and enjoined the members of its subordinate Lodges to abstain from, and avoid, such meetings.

The Grand Chapter of Pennsylvania has existed as an independent and supreme body for so many years, doing the works of Capitular Masonry in the way and manner handed down to us by our forefathers in Masonry, that we fear that any attempted union at this late day would be profitable to neither of the contracting parties, and that the results anticipated by our Companions of the General Grand Chapter would not be realized.

Such a union would necessitate not only a complete reforming of our Constitution and of the entire system of Royal Arch Masonry in Pennsylvania, as herein before indicated, but it would compel new duties and additional obligations, and we are satisfied that the risks of a possible failure are too great to justify the experiment.

The harmony and fraternal regard now existing between us and the General Grand Chapter are too precious to subject them to the test of a union which might divide rather than combine, and which, no doubt for the reasons herein urged, has been heretofore declined by us.

Your Committee offer the following resolutions, and ask their adoption :

1. *Resolved*, That the Most Excellent Grand Holy Royal Arch Chapter of Pennsylvania thanks the General Grand Chapter of Royal Arch Masons of the United States of America for its fraternal invitation to become one of its constituent members.

2. *Resolved*, That we deem it inexpedient to accept the invitation so kindly extended to us ; and

3. *Resolved*, That the Grand Officers advise the officers of the General Grand Chapter of our action, by transmitting a certified copy of these resolutions and of the report to which they are attached.

All of which is fraternally submitted.

LOUIS WAGNER,

HENRY J. McCARTHY,

GEORGE W. KENDRICK, JR., P. G. H. P.,

HIBBERT P. JOHN, P. G. H. P.,

CHARLES E. MEYER, P. G. H. P.

PHILADELPHIA, June 1, 1893.

On motion, the report was laid over for consideration until the September communication.

The M. E. Grand High Priest then made the following decision :

*"To the Members of the Grand Holy Royal Arch Chapter of Pennsylvania :*

"At the March Communication of this Grand Body, I directed that the Altar with the Holy Bible thereon should be taken from the obscure portion of the Chapter Hall and placed in the position you now observe it. I did not at the time make a decision relative to the change, but stated to you that in my judgment we erred in allowing so important

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and suggestive a requisite occupy space where the eyes of the whole congregation would not naturally rest. After due consideration and inquiry, and for the reasons hereinafter stated, I make the following order: That the position of the Altar, with the Holy Bible opened thereon, shall be upon the floor immediately in front of the High Priest's station, except while conferring the Royal Arch degree, when it shall occupy the usual position, at the entrance to the Tabernacle; this order shall also apply to installation ceremonies, the Altar remaining in its present position instead of being placed near the station of the officer to be installed. In Solomon's Temple there were two Altars, that is to say, the Altar of incense and the Altar of burnt sacrifices. The Temple had different apartments, or rather was *divided* into separate apartments. It consisted of the Porch, the Holy Place and the Holy of Holies (or Sanctum Sanctorum). The Porch was a tall tower said to have been two hundred and ten feet high. Either within the Porch or before it, as in Egyptian sacred edifices, stood the pillars Jachin and Boaz. The Holy of Holies was entered but once a year, and by the High Priest alone. A very sumptuous veil, made of the richest materials, separated this part from the rest. Within the Holy Place was the Altar of Incense, the table of Shew Bread and the Golden Candlestick; but in the Holy of Holies beyond the sumptuous veil that separated it from the Holy Place there was only the Ark of the Covenant, containing the Tables of the Law, and, according to St. Paul, the Pot of Manna and Aaron's Rod that budded. There was an outer court and very large, containing the *Altar of burnt offerings* or sacrifices. This was *very prominent*, so as to be seen by all the people, although only approachable by the ministering priests. At the wonderful moment when the glory of the Lord filled the house of the Lord, so that the priest could not minister before the Lord, then Solomon stood before the Altar, turning to the people, and began that majestic utterance so impressively rendered in the M. E. M. degree, and then followed the prayer on bended knees, with hands uplifted, *before the whole congregation*, with his face towards the sanctuary, and then followed the token of God's favor in the descent of the fire, consuming the sacrifices upon the altar. During the ceremonies of the dedication the Great Altar stood, as always, prominently in the Great Court of the Temple, where it was seen by all the people, and so we have it in the readings of the degree which illustrates the incident, and before it stands the M. E. H. P., where he utters solemn impressive words, and before it he kneels when the prayer is recited.

Now the Chapter is opened in the *Royal Arch* degree. We have passed the points referred to. Solomon's Temple has been destroyed. Under Cyrus, King of Persia, the rebuilding of the Temple takes place.

From their captivity the Jews, free to return to Jerusalem under their edict, offer their services without expectation or hope of fee or reward. There is no Temple. The Chapter Hall at this stage cannot typify it. For the purposes of the degree the Altar, not representing here the Altar of burnt sacrifices, but the throne of the Most High, is placed at the entrance where the solemn oath is required before the privileges of the degree can be conferred. At such a time the Altar is in its proper place, but a Royal Arch Chapter has a prefix to its title; it is a Holy Royal Arch Chapter. It can only be such through a recognition of the sign "Holiness to the Lord," which every Companion is expected to keep prominently before him in and out of the Chapter. The outward and visible recognition of the sentiment should be as conspicuous as possible, and so the Altar, bearing God's revelation to man, the Holy Bible, should always be where it can be seen and recognized by all."

The Grand Chapter was then "called off" for the purpose of exemplifying the degree of a Most Excellent Master Mason.

A Lodge of Most Excellent Master Masons was then opened and the work exemplified.

A Lodge of Most Excellent Master Masons was then closed.

The Grand Chapter was then "called on."

The Grand Chapter was then closed in peace at eight o'clock and fifty minutes P.M.

CHARLES E. MEYER,  
*Grand Secretary.*

## QUARTERLY COMMUNICATION,

HELD AT

Masonic Temple, Philadelphia, September 7, 1893.

## PRESENT:

Comp. EDGAR A. TENNIS, . . . . .	<i>M. E. Grand High Priest.</i>
" EZRA S. BARTLETT, . . . . .	<i>M. E. Grand King.</i>
" RICHARD M. JOHNSON, . . . . .	<i>M. E. Grand Scribe.</i>
" THOMAS R. PATTON, . . . . .	<i>M. E. Grand Treasurer.</i>
" CHARLES E. MEYER, . . . . .	<i>M. E. Grand Secretary.</i>

*District Deputy Grand High Priests.*—Comps. JOHN MCKAIN, JOHN K. SPRENKEL, GEORGE P. LINDSAY, FREDERICK L. BROWN, CHARLES F. DERR, ALURED P. BURTON, JAMES H. CODDING, STEPHEN H. APPLETON, THADDEUS S. ADLE, MICHAEL W. REINOEHL, MARTIN L. SHAFFNER, and the other Grand Officers in their respective places.

*Past Grand High Priests.*—Comps. CHARLES E. MEYER, MATTHIAS H. HENDERSON, JAMES S. BARBER.

Chapters Nos. 3, 21, 43, 52, 91, 152, 161, 167, 169, 173, 175, 180, 183, 185, 190, 193, 196, 197, 198, 199, 201, 202, 203, 208, 215, 220, 222, 223, 224, 226, 229, 232, 233, 234, 237, 240, 241, 243, 248, 250, 251, 256, 257, 267, 270.

The Grand Chapter opened in ancient and solemn form at seven o'clock P.M.

Minutes of the Quarterly Communication of June 8, 1893, were read and approved.

By-Laws and amendments were received from

Chapters 52, 208 and 275, which were referred to the Committee on By-Laws.

A missive was read from the Grand High Priest of the Grand Chapter of Georgia, appointing Comp. George P. Balmain Representative of the Grand Chapter of Georgia near the Grand Chapter of Pennsylvania.

On motion, Comp. Balmain was received and acknowledged as such.

The Grand Secretary presented the following report:

*To the M. E. Grand Holy Royal Arch Chapter of Pennsylvania:*

COMPANIONS:—The Grand Secretary fraternally presents the following Annual Report of the Chapters and Mark Lodges and the membership of the Jurisdiction for the year ending December 27, 1892.

#### CHAPTERS.

The number of members, December 27, 1891, was, . . . . .	14,074
Admitted during year 1892, . . . . .	81
Marked, . . . . .	1,182
Restored to membership, . . . . .	34
Error in returns, . . . . .	1
 Total, . . . . .	 15,372

#### DEDUCT.

Dimitted during 1892, or membership ceased, . . . . .	167
Died, . . . . .	217
Suspended or expelled, . . . . .	216
 600	 —
Membership, December 27, 1892, as per returns, . . . . .	14,772
A net gain of, . . . . .	698
During 1892 there have been rejected, . . . . .	38

## MARK LODGES.

Number of members, December 27, 1891, . . . . .	1,179
Admitted or restored during 1892, . . . . .	I
	—
	1,180

## DEDUCT.

Died, 1892, . . . . .	28
Suspended, . . . . .	2
Dimitted, . . . . .	I
	—
	31

Membership, December 27, 1892, . . . . .	1,149
Number of Chapters, December 27, 1892, . . . . .	118
Number of Mark Lodges, December 27, 1892, . . . . .	3

Fraternally submitted,

CHARLES E. MEYER,

PHILADELPHIA, September 7, 1893.

*Grand Secretary.*

The Committee on By-Laws presented the following report, which was received and the resolutions adopted:

*To the M. E. Grand High Priest, Officers and Members of the M. E. Grand Chapter of Pennsylvania:*

BROTHERS AND COMPANIONS:—Your Committee on By-Laws, having carefully examined the By-Laws and amendments to By-Laws referred to them, respectfully report the following resolutions for your consideration:

*Resolved*, That the proposed By-Laws of Chapter No. 275 be approved.

## AMENDMENTS TO BY-LAWS.

*Resolved*, That the proposed amendment to the By-Laws of Chapter No. 52 be approved.

Chapter No. 208 asks the approval of a By-Law which is in contravention of Section 26 of the Constitution, and, of course, cannot be approved as it stands, but to accomplish the desire of the Chapter as far as can be done we offer the following:

*Resolved*, That the proposed amendment to the By-Laws of Chapter No. 208 be amended by substituting for said amendment the following:

"Subject to the provisions of Section 80 of the Constitution of the Grand Chapter," and as thus amended said amendment be approved.

Chapters Nos. 207 and 212 asked for the approval of amendments to their By-Laws fixing the yearly dues of members at sums which seemed to your Committee wholly inadequate to sustain them; upon corresponding with them as to their condition and prospects we think, perhaps, they may, with the aid of their invested funds, be able to make both ends meet, and, therefore, offer the following:

*Resolved*, That the proposed amendments to the By-Laws of Chapters Nos. 207 and 212 be approved.

Fraternally submitted,

J. ALEXANDER SIMPSON,

PHILADELPHIA, September 7, 1893.

*Chairman.*

The report of the Special Committee on the Communication from the General Grand Chapter was then considered and unanimously adopted.

The Grand Chapter was then "called off" for the purpose of exemplifying the Royal Arch degree.

A Chapter of Royal Arch Masons was then opened.

The Royal Arch degree was then exemplified by the Grand Officers.

The Chapter of Royal Arch Masons was then closed.

The Grand Chapter was "called on."

The Grand Chapter closed in peace at nine o'clock and ten minutes P.M.

CHARLES E. MEYER,

*Grand Secretary.*

## QUARTERLY COMMUNICATION,

HELD AT

Masonic Temple, Philadelphia, December 7, 1893.

## PRESENT:

Comp. EDGAR A. TENNIS, . . . . .	<i>M. E. Grand High Priest.</i>
" EZRA S. BARTLETT, . . . . .	<i>M. E. Grand King.</i>
" RICHARD M. JOHNSON, . . . . .	<i>M. E. Grand Scribe.</i>
" THOMAS R. PATTON, . . . . .	<i>M. E. Grand Treasurer.</i>
" J. ALEXANDER SIMPSON, . . . . .	<i>Asst. Grand Secretary.</i>

*District Deputy Grand High Priests.*—Comps. JOHN K. SPRENKEL, MICHAEL W. JACOBS, GEORGE P. LINDSAY, JAMES H. CODDING, MICHAEL W. REINOEHL, CHARLES F. DERR, FREDERICK L. BROWN, ALURED P. BURTON, ALFRED F. HENLEIN, T. S. ADLE, STEPHEN H. APPLETON, DANIEL B. ELSE, WILLIAM K. JONES, and the other Grand Officers in their respective places.

*Past Grand High Priests.*—Comps. GEORGE E. WAGNER, HIBBERT P. JOHN, GEORGE W. KENDRICK, JR., MATTHIAS H. HENDERSON, JAMES S. BARBER, ALEXANDER H. MORGAN.

*Grand Representatives.*—Comp. EDGAR A. TENNIS, of Grand Chapter of Kentucky.

Comp. HIBBERT P. JOHN, of Grand Chapter of Tennessee.

Comp. THOMAS R. PATTON, of Grand Chapters of Nebraska, Canada and Scotland.

Comp. WILLIAM J. KELLY, of Grand Chapter of Arkansas.

Comp. MICHAEL ARNOLD, of Grand Chapter of Alabama.

Comp. SAMUEL W. LATTA, of Grand Chapter of Colorado.

Comp. RICHARD M. JOHNSON, of Grand Chapter of Indian Territory.

Comp. IRVING P. WANGER, of Grand Chapter of Ohio.

Comp. GEORGE W. KENDRICK, JR., of Grand Chapter of Nebraska.

Comp. ISAAC N. GRUBB, of Grand Chapter of Nevada.

Comp. ALEXANDER McCUNE, of Grand Chapter of Maine.  
Comp. EZRA S. BARTLETT, of Grand Chapter of New Jersey.  
Comp. ELSWORTH H. HULTS, of Grand Chapter of Rhode Island.  
Comp. LOUIS WAGNER, of Grand Chapter of Vermont.  
Comp. CONRAD B. DAY, of Grand Chapter of Virginia.  
Comp. HARRY M. VAN ZANDT, of Grand Chapter of South Dakota.  
Comp. JAMES S. BARBER, of Grand Chapters of North Carolina and Delaware.  
Comp. DAVID B. TAYLOR, of Grand Chapter of District of Columbia.  
Comp. JOSHUA L. LYTE, of Grand Chapter of Iowa.  
Comp. N. FERREE LIGHTNER, of Grand Chapter of Minnesota.  
Comp. WILLIAM A. SINN, of Grand Chapter of Texas.  
Comp. J. SIMPSON AFRICA, of Grand Chapter of California.  
Comp. MICHAEL W. JACOBS, of Grand Chapter of North Dakota.  
Comp. ALEXANDER H. MORGAN, of Grand Chapter of Maryland.  
Comp. SAMUEL W. WRAY, of Grand Chapter of Kansas.  
Comp. JOHN C. WALLACE, of Grand Chapter of West Virginia.

Chapters Nos. 3, 21, 43, 52, 91, 150, 152, 159, 160, 161, 162, 163, 164, 167, 169, 170, 172, 173, 174, 175, 177, 179, 180, 183, 190, 191, 195, 196, 197, 198, 199, 202, 203, 206, 208, 211, 212, 214, 215, 216, 218, 219, 220, 221, 222, 224, 228, 230, 232, 233, 234, 235, 237, 238, 239, 240, 241, 243, 244, 245, 246, 247, 248, 249, 250, 251, 252, 255, 256, 257, 258, 260, 261, 262, 263, 264, 267, 270, 271, 273, 275—(81 Chapters).

The Grand Chapter opened in ancient and solemn form at three o'clock P.M.

The Minutes of the Quarterly Communication, held September 7, were read and approved.

A petition was read from Chapter No. 52, asking permission to receive and act upon the petition of C. H. B., rejected in Chapter No. 233.

On motion, permission was granted under the usual restrictions.

Amendments to the By-Laws of Chapters Nos. 275

and 276 were received and referred to the Committee on By-Laws.

The Committee on Finance presented the following report:

*To the M. E. Grand High Priest, Officers and Members of the Grand Holy Royal Arch Chapter of Pennsylvania:*

COMPANIONS:—The Committee on Finance respectfully report that they have examined the books of the M. E. Grand Treasurer, Comp. Thomas R. Patton, and the books of the M. E. Grand Secretary, Comp. Charles E. Meyer, from November 28, 1892, to November 28, 1893, and find them correct and agreeing with their vouchers, showing:

#### RECEIPTS.

Balance on hand November 28, 1892 . . . . .	\$1,474 52
Dues and Fees from Chapters and Mark Lodges, . . . . .	4,189 20
Interest on Masonic Loan, . . . . .	800 00
Interest on deposits of Grand Treasurer, . . . . .	32 71
Sale of Certificates, Constitutions, Attests, Dispensations, etc.	7 50
Warrant for new Chapter, . . . . .	100 00
Return Grand High Priest's appropriation, . . . . .	122 30
<hr/>	
Total, . . . . .	\$6,726 23

#### PAYMENTS.

Masonic Home of Pennsylvania, . . . . .	\$500 00
Expenses M. E. Grand High Priest, . . . . .	1,500 00
Expenses D. D. Grand High Priests, . . . . .	552 38
Salary, Grand Secretary, to Sept. 27, 1892, . . . . .	750 00
Salary, Grand Secretary's Clerk, to Sept. 27, 1892,	400 00
Salary, Grand Tyler, to Sept. 27, 1892, . . . . .	150 00
Printing, Portraits, etc., . . . . .	1,468 94
Tuning organ, one year, . . . . .	40 00
Repairs to clothing, collars, aprons, jewels and robes,	34 50
Postage, expressage, stationery, office expenses,	
Grand Secretary and Grand High Priest's offices, . . . . .	154 80
<hr/>	
Leaving balance of, . . . . .	\$1,175 61

We have examined the investments held by the M. E. Grand Treasurer, amounting to twenty thousand dollars, all of which are bonds of the four per cent. Masonic Loan, in the name of the Grand Holy Royal Arch Chapter of Pennsylvania, and found them correct.

The Committee present the following estimate of receipts and expenditures for the year 1894.

RECEIPTS.

Balance on hand Nov. 28, 1893, . . . . .	\$1,175 61
Dues and fees from Chapters and Mark Lodges, . . . . .	5,300 00
Interest on investment, . . . . .	800 00
Sale of Constitutions, Certificates, Dispensations, etc., . . . . .	10 00
Charter, . . . . .	100 00
	—————
	\$7,385 61

EXPENDITURES.

Masonic Home of Pennsylvania, . . . . .	\$500 00
Rent for 1893-1894, . . . . .	2,550 00
Expenses M. E. Grand High Priest, . . . . .	1,500 00
Expenses D. D. Grand High Priests, . . . . .	600 00
Salary of Grand Secretary, twelve months, . . . . .	750 00
Salary of Clerk, twelve months, . . . . .	400 00
Salary of Grand Tyler, twelve months, . . . . .	150 00
Masonic clothing, etc., . . . . .	25 00
Printing Annual Proceedings, postage, stationery, etc.	700 00
Tuning organ for twelve months, . . . . .	40 00
	—————
	7,215 00
Showing a surplus of . . . . .	\$170 61

The Committee offer the following resolutions:

*Resolved*, That appropriations be made for the year 1894, as follows:

Masonic Home of Pennsylvania, . . . . .	\$500 00
For expenses of the M. E. Grand High Priest, . . . . .	1,500 00
For expenses of the D. D. Grand High Priests in visiting Chapters, . . . . .	600 00
For rent, . . . . .	2,550 00
For printing, including Annual Proceedings, postage, ex- pression, stationery, etc. . . . .	700 00
For salary of Grand Secretary, . . . . .	750 00
For salary of Clerk, . . . . .	400 00
For salary of Grand Tyler, . . . . .	150 00
For tuning organ, . . . . .	40 00
For Masonic clothing, etc., . . . . .	25 00
	—————
	\$7,215 00

*Resolved*, That the M. E. Grand High Priest be, and he is hereby authorized to draw his warrants on the M. E. Grand Treasurer for the amounts named in the foregoing resolution, as they become due and payable.

WILLIAM J. KELLY,  
SAMUEL W. WRAY,  
CHARLES W. PACKER,  
M. RICHARDS MUCKLÉ,  
ELLSWORTH H. HULTS,  
*Committee on Finance.*

On motion, the report of the Committee was received and the resolutions attached thereto unanimously adopted.

The Committee on By-Laws presented the following report:

*To the M. E. Grand High Priest, Officers and Members of the M. E. Grand Holy Royal Arch Chapter of Pennsylvania :*

BROTHERS AND COMPANIONS:—Your Committee on By-Laws, having carefully examined the proposed By-Laws and amendments to By-Laws, offer the following resolutions for your consideration:

*Resolved*, The proposed By-Laws of Chapter No. 276 be amended by striking out of Article II the words, "The meetings in the months of July and August may be dispensed with by a vote of the Chapter;" by striking out of Section 3 of Article IV the words, "Or such other investment," and inserting in their place, "In municipal bonds, or in the stock of any public corporation," and by adding at the end of the clause after the word "Chapter" the words, "But no investment shall be made in any personal obligations;" by striking out of Article IX the words, "There shall be no charge for a dimit," and as thus amended said By-Laws be approved.

*Resolved*, That the proposed amendment to the By-Laws of Chapter No. 275 be approved.

Fraternally submitted,

J. ALEXANDER SIMPSON,

PHILADELPHIA, December 7, 1893.

*Chairman.*

The Committee on Printing and Publishing presented the following report, which was ordered spread upon the Minutes:

*To the M. E. Grand High Priest, Officers and Members of the M. E. Grand Holy Royal Arch Chapter of Pennsylvania:*

COMPANIONS:—The Committee on Printing and Publishing beg leave to report that during the year they have approved bills for printing and stationery for the amount of \$1468.94.

Fraternally submitted,

JAMES BLELOCH,

*for Committee.*

The M. E. Grand High Priest then, in feeling words, announced the death of Past Grand High Priest Comp. Augustus R. Hall, on October 7, 1893, aged seventy years.

Comp. Past Grand High Priest George W. Kendrick, Jr., then offered the following, which was unanimously adopted:

IN MEMORIAM OF

AUGUSTUS R. HALL,

*Past Grand High Priest of the Grand Chapter of Pennsylvania.*

“His life has flowed  
From its mysterious urn, a sacred stream  
In whose calm depths the beautiful and pure  
Alone are mirrored.”

“Wherein has it been more truthfully demonstrated, ‘In the midst of life we are in death?’ Taken, as it were, in the very hour when ministering consolation and comfort to the weary and care-worn, Augustus R. Hall passes from an active life to the portals of death; from all that is transitory to the realization of the sublime and beautiful of the hereafter.

"To have made the best possible use of what is in us is the highest encomium that can be bestowed on any Companion. And of how few can it be truly said, 'They have lived their lives well and nobly?' But, when one passes away who has possessed those qualities which gain affection and command respect, it is but fitting that we honor ourselves in doing reverence unto him.

"As we assemble here to mourn our loss, let us profit by the occasion to gather threads of benefit to ourselves; threads that will bind us into closer unity, conscious that such would be the hope and desire of him who has left us.

"On occasions such as the present, when we stand with bowed heads and humble hearts before the altar of our memories, pæans of praise should be sounded as we remember that our friends are never dead to us until we forget them. The contact and association of many years cannot be destroyed at one given blow by the fell reaper, Death. The advantages that have been gained by such association are difficult to be estimated; but their mere consideration must add gratitude to the respect we already pay the dead.

"Brethren, to extol the departed can do naught to increase his honor; it can but teach us the great duty and lesson of life, and the high purpose of those who are taken from us is frustrated unless we appreciate and imitate the example they have set before us.

"Augustus R. Hall was born October 27, 1824, in Paterson, N. J.

"Bro. Hall was made a Mason in Philadelphia Lodge, No. 72, October 20, 1864. In 1870 he served as Junior Warden; 1871, as Senior Warden, and 1872 as Worshipful Master; during 1881, 1882 and 1883 he served as Treasurer, and from 1887 to his death as Secretary, the salary for which at first he gave to the widow of the former Secretary, afterwards to the Fund for Widows and Orphans of Deceased Members of the Lodge, at no time retaining it for himself.

"He received the Mark Master Mason's degree in Girard Mark Lodge, No. 214, December 8, 1868; served as Junior Warden in 1880, as Senior Warden in 1881, and as Worshipful Master in 1882; was appointed Treasurer in 1887, elected to that office at the meeting in December, 1887, and re-elected each succeeding year.

"He was exalted in Jerusalem Chapter, No. 3, June 24, 1868; afterwards served as Scribe, King and High Priest, after which he was elected Representative to the Grand Chapter, continuing in that position up to the time of his death.

"He received the Cryptic degrees in Philadelphia Council, No. 11, June 10, 1873; served as P. C. W. in 1879, as D. I. G. M. in 1880, and as T. I. G. M. in 1881.

"He was Knighted in Kadosh Commandery, No. 29, K. T., August 8, 1873; served as C. G., as Gen'o, as E. C., and, up to a short time before his death, as Prelate.

"He was elected a member of the Masonic Veterans' Association January 30, 1886.

"He was a member and Trustee of Philadelphia Consistory, and an active member of the Supreme Council for the Northern Jurisdiction of America.

"He was a member and Past Officer of Philadelphia Conclave, No. 8, Red Cross of Constantine and a Past Grand Sovereign of the Grand Council.

"He was Past Grand High Priest of the Grand Holy Royal Arch Chapter of Pennsylvania, serving as M. E. Grand Scribe during 1879 and 1880, as M. E. Grand King during 1881 and 1882, and as M. E. Grand High Priest during 1883 and 1884.

"In 1891 he served as R. P. G. C. of W. in the Grand Council of Royal and Select Masters; in 1892 as R. P. Ill. G. M., and at the time of his death was serving as R. P. D. G. M.

"He was for many years one of the Board of Managers of the Masonic Home of Pennsylvania, and resigned recently on account of ill health.

"He died October 7, 1893, aged seventy years.

"His interment was in Mount Vernon Cemetery, Wednesday, October 11, 1893. His mortal remains were accompanied to their last resting place by his relatives, friends and a large number of his Masonic Brethren.

"We point with pride to this bright record, and should strive to emulate the example.

"After the contemplation of such a life we are the more convinced that the high purposes that created it are not terminated by death, but that what is so called is but a transition; our brief existence on this sphere 'but a suburb of the life elysian whose portals we call death.'

"The evidence presented to us warrants the saying that 'it is not all of life to live.' That the world grows better by the acts of our Brethren who live in it.

"Augustus R. Hall's influence and dignity were felt in any circle of which he formed a component part; and you realized the good which was accomplished by the true inwardness of so noble a character.

"He was first and foremost a man, admired for his firmness of character, respected for his integrity and loved for himself. Ever willing to assist the unfortunate, he offered the salutary influence of example to every member of our Craft.

“ If the spirit ever gazes,  
From its journeyings, back ;  
If the immortal ever traces  
O'er its mortal track ;  
Wilt thou not, O Brother, meet us  
Sometimes on our way,  
And, in hours of sadness, greet us  
As a spirit may ?

“ Peace be with thee, O our Brother,  
In the spirit land !  
Vainly look we for another  
In thy place to stand.  
Unto Truth and Freedom giving  
All thy earthly powers,  
Be thy virtues with the living,  
And thy spirit ours !

“ It is, therefore, meet and proper that when such a Companion passes away from the duties of life that those who knew him, and fully appreciated his noble and generous qualities, should meet and leave some record of their appreciation.

“ *Resolved*, That as a slight token of our esteem, regard and affection for our late Companion, Augustus R. Hall, that the jewels of the Grand Chapter be draped in mourning for a period of six months.”

Remarks were also made by Comp. William J. Kelly and Grand Chaplain Henry S. Getz.

This being the time fixed by the Constitution for the election of Grand Officers, to serve Grand Chapter for the ensuing Masonic year, beginning on St. John's day next, Tellers were appointed to conduct the election.

The Tellers reported the following Companions duly elected:

M. E. Comp. EDGAR A. TENNIS, . . . .	<i>M. E. Grand High Priest.</i>
" EZRA S. BARTLETT, . . . .	<i>M. E. Grand King.</i>
" RICHARD M. JOHNSON, . . . .	<i>M. E. Grand Scribe.</i>
" THOMAS R. PATTON, . . . .	<i>M. E. Grand Treasurer.</i>
" CHARLES CARY, . . . .	<i>M. E. Grand Secretary.</i>

And they were duly proclaimed as such.

The Grand Chapter was closed in peace at six o'clock and thirty-five minutes P.M.

CHARLES E. MEYER,

*Grand Secretary.*

## ANNUAL COMMUNICATION,

HELD AT

Masonic Temple, Philadelphia, St. John's Day, Wednesday, December  
27, 1893.

## PRESENT:

Comp. EDGAR A. TENNIS, . . . . .	<i>M. E. Grand High Priest.</i>
" EZRA S. BARTLETT, . . . . .	<i>M. E. Grand King.</i>
" RICHARD M. JOHNSON, . . . . .	<i>M. E. Grand Scribe.</i>
" THOMAS R. PATTON, . . . . .	<i>M. E. Grand Treasurer.</i>
" J. ALEXANDER SIMPSON, . . . . .	<i>Acting Grand Secretary.</i>
" STEPHEN H. APPLETON, . . . . .	as <i>Grand Captain of the Host.</i>
" EDWIN H. COANE, . . . . .	<i>Grand Principal Sojourner.</i>
" LOUIS WAGNER, . . . . .	<i>Grand R. A. Captain.</i>
" REV. HENRY S. GETZ, . . . . .	<i>Grand Chaplain.</i>
" GEORGE B. WELLS . . . . .	as <i>Grand Master of 3d Veil.</i>
" ROBERT J. LINDEN, . . . . .	<i>Grand Master of 2d Veil.</i>
" SAMUEL W. LATTA, . . . . .	<i>Grand Master of 1st Veil.</i>
" HARRY T. KINGSTON, . . . . .	<i>Grand Marshal.</i>
" ADAM H. SCHMEHL, . . . . .	<i>G. S. Master of Ceremonies.</i>
" SAMUEL I. GIVEN, . . . . .	<i>G. J. Master of Ceremonies.</i>
" FRANK M. HIGHLEY, . . . . .	<i>Grand Pursuivant.</i>
" WILLIAM A. SINN, . . . . .	<i>Grand Tyler.</i>
" STEPHEN H. APPLETON, . . . . .	<i>D. D. Grand High Priest.</i>
" FREDERICK L. BROWN, . . . . .	<i>D. D. Grand High Priest.</i>

*Past Grand High Priests.*—Comps. MICHAEL NISBET, GEORGE E. WAGNER, HIBBERT P. JOHN, GEORGE W. KENDRICK, JR., MATTHIAS H. HENDERSON and JAMES S. BARBER.

*Representatives of Chapters Nos. 3, 43, 52, 91, 175, 183, 185, 190, 197, 201, 202, 220, 232, 234, 238, 243, 250, 251, 262, 270—(20 Chapters).*

The Grand Chapter was opened in ample form at six o'clock P.M.

General returns were received from a number of Chapters, which were ordered to be entered and filed.

By-Laws were received from Chapter No. 277, and referred to the Committee on By-Laws.

A communication was read from George L. McCahan, Deputy and Acting General Grand High Priest of the General Grand Chapter of the United States, which was ordered spread on the Minutes.

A missive was received from the Grand Chapter of Royal Arch Masons of Maryland, announcing the death of Past Grand High Priest Robert Kirkwood Martin, of said Grand Chapter.

The Committee on By-Laws presented the following report, which was received and adopted:

*To the M. E. Grand High Priest, Officers and Members of the M. E. Grand Holy Royal Arch Chapter of Pennsylvania:*

BROTHERS AND COMPANIONS:—Your Committee on By-Laws, to whom was referred the proposed By-Laws of Chapter No. 277, having carefully examined the same, respectfully offer the following resolution for your consideration, to wit:

*Resolved*, That the proposed By-Laws of Chapter No. 277, be amended by striking out of Section 1, of Article V, all of the section preceding the word "Secretary" where it occurs the second time, and inserting in their place, "The Auditing Committee shall consist of three members, neither the;" by striking out of Section 1, of Article VI, all after the word "Chapter," where it first occurs; and, as thus amended, said By-Laws be approved.

Fraternally submitted,

J. ALEXANDER SIMPSON,

December 27, 1893.

*Chairman.*

M. E. Companion EDGAR A. TENNIS, Grand High Priest, then delivered the following

#### ADDRESS.

COMPANIONS OF THE GRAND CHAPTER:—With the ranks of my official family unbroken, we are again permitted to meet within these walls dedicated to Masonry and review the closing year, correct the errors, if any there be, and suggest changes that may be for the future good of the Royal Craft.

My first thought is one of thankfulness to the great Father of us all for the many blessings richly bestowed ; on every side we see evidences of the all-protecting arm of a beneficent Providence and the divine approval of our labors, which should prompt us to continue in the great work before us until we receive the reward beyond the White Veil, which comes to those who work with pure hearts and clean hands.

#### THE DEAD.

The harvest time of the Angel Death is ever and always, and while all the officers of our Grand Body, both elected and appointed, have been spared to us, yet the silent messenger has not been idle, and some of our brightest lights have been extinguished, and we are led to cry out—

“Oh, for the touch of a vanished hand,  
The sound of a voice that is still.”

Augustus R. Hall, Past Grand High Priest.

Robert A. Lamberton, Past District Deputy Grand High Priest.

Dr. Edwin G. Martin, “ “ “ “ . “ “

John J. Wadsworth, “ “ “ “ . “ “

Let us cherish the hope that they have been exalted to the Companionship of that Eternal Lodge where the adoration of the twelfth hour is everlasting joy.

## DISTRICT DEPUTIES.

I have been greatly assisted during the year by the District Deputies in their respective districts, and to several in particular am I indebted for the earnest and conscientious manner in which they have endeavored to carry out the suggestions made in my address of last year. There is yet room for improvement, and I earnestly request a close adherence to the recognized work of the Grand Chapter, so that the uniformity of work so much desired may not be retarded through the indifference of those who are the immediate representatives of the Grand High Priest.

I have imposed some extra work upon them during the year in my effort to have all the Chapters properly equipped, and much has been accomplished in this particular. While visiting the constituent Chapters, I discovered many of them were without suitable and even necessary equipment, whereupon I issued the following circular, a copy of which was sent to each Chapter :

“First, give a complete list of the clothing, including Collars, Aprons and Jewels, Robes, etc., of each officer of your Chapter, Most Excellent Masters’ and Mark Masters’ Lodge. The working tools and necessaries for conferring the Mark, Most Excellent and Royal Arch degrees, together with the number of Crowns and Aprons for use of the members. A list of articles required accompanies this and should be returned with your answer.

“Second, give number of members who have not recorded their marks in the Book of Marks.

“Third, do your By-Laws require your Treasurer to give bond, and have the By-Laws been complied with?

“Fourth, is your Chapter opened at the time prescribed by the By-Laws?

“Fifth, what is the average attendance of members at your meetings?”

In this circular I gave a list necessary for the proper working of

each of the three Capitular degrees. The replies thus far received, and they embrace most of the Chapters in the jurisdiction, show that out of a total of 119 Chapters only 28 are fully equipped. Twenty-four hundred and thirty-seven Mark Master Masons have not recorded their Marks. Only 18 Chapters require their Treasurer to give bond, and the average attendance is about 25 per cent.

Upon receipt of unfavorable reports, I requested the District Deputies in whose districts the deficiencies occurred to personally visit the Chapters, and late reports show a marked improvement and a cheerful disposition upon the part of each Chapter to fully conform with the Constitution.

In the selecting and recording of Marks especially has there been activity, and many Chapters now boast of a Book of Marks containing the selection of each of their members, all of which is not only commendable but required, and in order to avoid omissions in the future I would suggest to each High Priest that he refuse to exalt a Companion to the supreme degree of a Royal Arch Mason until he shall have selected and recorded a Mark, which suggestion, if adopted, will not only properly preserve a record but assist in reminding a candidate of the obligation assumed.

#### DECISIONS.

The question of jurisdiction, now fortunately quite well understood, was only once presented for consideration, and I informed the inquiring Chapter that there was no such thing as jurisdiction in Capitular Masonry in Pennsylvania, but only the moral fitness of a candidate need be considered.

In the case of a candidate who presented himself within six months, but who could not receive the degrees by reason of there being no meeting of the Chapter, I decided that the degrees could subsequently be conferred upon him.

In several instances requests were received from Grand High

Priests of sister jurisdictions asking permission to receive and act upon petitions of residents of this jurisdiction, and in all cases where the applicant was a Past Master and member of a Lodge in this jurisdiction the requests were granted. Like favors have been extended by the Grand High Priests of other jurisdictions to this Grand Chapter.

In one case permission was refused because the candidate, while a member of, was not a Past Master of this jurisdiction.

A constituent Chapter was censured for granting, contrary to the Constitution, permission to a Chapter in another jurisdiction to receive and act upon a petition from a resident of their immediate vicinity.

Chapters will bear in mind that upon receipt of a communication asking such permission they must at once forward the same to the Grand High Priest of this jurisdiction, who alone has authority to act.

I refused the application of Chapter No. 205, asking for a dispensation to hold an election to elect a certain named Companion as High Priest, and afterwards to install him.

A dispensation can only be given to hold an election and to fill such vacancies as may be caused by said election. The privilege of the Companions to select whom they please cannot be abridged by dispensation.

In the effort of Allen Chapter, No. 203, to collect from Cataract Chapter, No. 10, in the jurisdiction of New Jersey, a sum of money expended by Allen Chapter at the request of Cataract Chapter, for the care and subsequent burial expenses of a member of Cataract Chapter, my assistance was invoked, but after due consideration I refused to take up the subject, and wrote the following letter:

“In the matter of Allen Chapter, No. 203, against Cataract Chapter, No. 10, of Patterson, N. J., I cannot consistently enter-

tain your claim upon the latter Chapter. Allen Chapter, No. 203, did only a plain duty in the exercise of charity towards an unfortunate Companion, and I would very much regret to learn that any Chapter in our jurisdiction would do less under similar circumstances. The lack of appreciation upon the part of Cataract Chapter is not creditable to said Chapter nor to the jurisdiction of New Jersey, but we must not be found wanting when the demands of charity appeal to our resources, even though our neighbor forgets the beautiful and impressive lesson taught in the Mark degree."

I have refused the application of a Chapter to hold a stated meeting upon a day other than a day fixed by their By-Laws, the request being made because their stated meeting falls upon Christmas evening, this being the night of their annual election of officers and action to be taken on delinquent members. I considered it a dangerous precedent to establish.

#### REPRESENTATIVES.

I have appointed the following named Companions to represent this Grand Chapter near their respective Grand Chapters, and their commissions have been duly received and acknowledged.

Comp. Martin R. Thorp, Grand Representative near the Grand Chapter, District of Columbia.

Comp. John M. Sears, Grand Representative near the Grand Chapter of Tennessee.

Comp. John H. Condon, Grand Representative near the Grand Chapter of New Hampshire.

Comp. J. H. Caldwell, Grand Representative near the Grand Chapter of Louisiana, succeeding Dr. James C. Bachelor, who for many years prior to his death was our distinguished Representative near the Grand Chapter of Louisiana.

We have also received and acknowledged the appointment of the following Companions to represent the several Grand Bodies near this Grand Chapter.

Comp. Richard M. Johnson, Representative of the Grand Chapter of Indian Territory.

Comp. Samuel W. Latta, M.D., Representative of the Grand Chapter of Colorado.

Comp. Isaac W. Grubb, M.D., Representative of the Grand Chapter of Nevada.

Comp. Joseph Eichbaum, Representative of the Grand Chapter of New Hampshire.

Comp. George P. Balmain, Representative of the Grand Chapter of Georgia.

Comp. Frank J. Collins, Representative of the Grand Chapter of Connecticut.

I received the resignation of Companion William L. Connell, District Deputy Grand High Priest for the counties of Lackawanna, Wayne, Susquehanna and Wyoming, except Chapter 112 at Tunkhannock, and appointed as his successor, Companion Frederick L. Brown, of Chapter No. 185, at Scranton.

In connection with the appointment of Grand Representatives, I desire to say that I have never discovered any practical use for said Representatives, and to my mind they are more ornamental than necessary or useful, and yet, following a long line of precedents established since the formation of this Grand Body, I have continued to make appointments wherever vacancies occurred. My position, perhaps, can be better understood from the following letter which I wrote to the Grand High Priest of Michigan, January 5, in answer to a letter of inquiry from him.

"You ask certain questions and I suppose you expect plain answers. To them I answer, first, What benefit are Representatives to Grand Chapters? Answer.—No practical benefit whatever do

they confer on Royal Arch Masonry. Do you appoint them? Answer.—Yes, because others are doing it and they like it. How long are they continued? Answer.—At the pleasure of the Grand High Priest. Who is eligible? Answer.—No one is eligible with us unless a Past High Priest who is in possession of the order of High Priesthood. We hold that a Representative should never be required to leave the room because not in possession of all the degrees of Royal Arch Masonry.”

#### POSITION OF THE ALTAR.

At the Quarterly Communication in June I gave official recognition to the position of the Altar as you now behold it with the open Bible thereon, giving at the same time my reasons therefor, which will appear in another portion of the Annual Proceedings.

It is a source of satisfaction to me that the change has met general approval, not only in our jurisdiction, but by the Masonic Press and Companions of other jurisdictions whose favorable comments have reached us.

The decision has been printed and a copy sent to each constituent Chapter for their information. It is possible that by occupying a more prominent position in our Chapter Hall, that the mind of a Companion may be further attracted to this Great Light of Masonry. No man can be an apt teacher of Masonry, or rightly understand its history or philosophy, unless he is well read in the Historical books of the Bible and deeply imbued with their spirit.

The Grand Chapter of Pennsylvania is the oldest on this Continent, having been opened under the immediate sanction of the Grand Lodge of Pennsylvania on the 23d of November, 1795, with William Ball, then Grand Master, as Grand High Priest.

The Grand Chapter of Pennsylvania was invested with full powers to elect all its officers, saving that the R. W. Grand Master of the Grand Lodge for the time being, if of that degree, shall

always preside as High Priest. It also had power to make its own By-Laws, and shall hear and determine all complaints from Chapters, etc., the only restriction being that the said Grand Royal Arch Chapter shall not at any time raise any Brother to the degree of Royal Arch. In 1824 the Grand Chapter was as at present reorganized.

There are now working within this jurisdiction 119 Chapters, having at the last returns an official membership of 14,772, indicating a net gain of 698 members for the year, this being an increase over the last preceding year of 164 members. These figures refer to the numerical strength for 1892. From all that I can learn, the additions to our Chapters during the past year show a net gain over 1892, thus indicating that notwithstanding the unfortunate business depression now prevailing, necessitating the utmost prudence and economy in the world of business, we are not to be affected. The profane seem more and more to realize that the mission of Masonry is to relieve and lessen the sorrows of the heart pierced by the arrows of misfortune and disappointment. The poor shall never cease out of the land; sickness, disaster and accident will continue to afflict the bodies, and sorrow and bereavement to pierce and rend the souls, of all of Adam's race; yet we rejoice in the thought that the mission of Masonry is the same now as it ever was—doing good to all men, especially to those who are of the household of faith—our Brethren.

I am gratified to advise the increased membership and interest, as above indicated, but, while I am anxious to foster and encourage Capitular Masonry, I must condemn the over-solicitous action of many Companions who seek to control the members of particular Lodges for certain Chapters; the dignity and beauty of Royal Arch Masonry must be maintained—the lessons taught and the principles inculcated are the same in all regularly constituted Chapters, and the struggling Chapter should not be subjected to the

pleasure of a strong rival, whose members exact a promise from the newly-made Brother that his petition will come to their favored Chapter. The exercise of a Brother's free will and accord should be as binding and sweet to him when ready to petition a Chapter as before initiation, and our over-zealous Companions will do well to remember this.

#### COMMITTEE OF INQUIRY.

I also call the attention of High Priests to the common error of Committees of Inquiry signing favorable reports without having seen the candidates, and made the necessary and important inquiries as to their character and fitness for advancement.

The applicant must be interrogated by the Committee, and due inquiry made before a conscientious report can be presented. Should a Committee thus fail to perform their duty, and a High Priest permit a report and confer the degrees in full knowledge of the omission, I would feel in duty bound to declare the action of such Chapter null and void, and the Brother not a member of the Chapter petitioned. It does not follow because a candidate has been found worthy of the prayer of his petition being granted in a Blue Lodge, that he has a passport to the degrees of Royal Arch Masonry, but in all cases the petition must stand upon its merits at the time of its presentation, and this can only be ascertained by due inquiry upon the part of the Committee.

Companions recommending petitions must first ascertain that the applicant has passed the Chair, and that the conditions of his petition are fully understood. A failure to do this has caused both applicant and Chapter trouble and delay.

#### NEW CHAPTERS.

The Grand Officers to whom was referred the application for a new Chapter at Hazleton, Pa., having reported favorably, and the

Chapter Hall, with all necessary paraphernalia, being in readiness, together with the assurance that the officers chosen were prepared to do the work required of them, I proceeded to Hazleton on the afternoon of January 31, accompanied by the Grand Chapter officers, and constituted Hazleton Chapter, No. 277, in due and ancient form. This Chapter starts under favorable conditions, there being 29 charter members and several active Lodges from which the Chapter can draw. The officers and membership generally are men of intelligence and Masonic experience, warranting the prediction that although young in years they will not long remain young in experience, nor amateurs in the work of the Royal Art.

The new Chapter at Catasauqua has not yet been constituted, although all things are in readiness except satisfactory proof that the officers chosen are proficient in the work of Royal Arch Masonry, and able to creditably perform the duties incumbent upon them. Until such evidence is furnished, we must refuse to constitute this or any other Chapter. We have now too many Chapters whose officers are unable to do the work, and who depend upon a District Deputy or a Past High Priest to perform duties they have obligated themselves to perform. I have on my mind a number of Chapters whose warrants might, with credit to this Grand Body, be canceled; not so much because of their numerical weakness as the spirit of indifference, and utter disregard on the part of officers for the moral obligations assumed.

#### FINANCE.

I am pleased to report that, notwithstanding the appropriation of \$500 to the Masonic Home of Pennsylvania by this Grand Chapter, we have been able to pay all demands upon us for necessary maintenance, and exhibit a balance of \$1175.61 in the treasury.

The total receipts of the year have been \$5251.79 against

\$5054.83 in the previous year. Investments of the Grand Chapter amount to \$20,000.

In this connection I desire to say that I have given some attention during the year to the financial condition of constituent Chapters, and while in the main I find them in good condition, and a few with comfortable balances and investments, yet I am constrained to believe that the tendency to extravagance in the matter of expensive and elaborate banquets is on the increase, and sooner or later must be met by some positive measure of reform. Good business judgment and discretion are as essential in the management of our Chapters as in our daily business, and the High Priest who seeks to maintain popularity by undue expenditure of the Chapter's money, only invites criticism upon himself and embarrassment upon his Chapter, and instead of perpetuating his memory for deeds of charity and unselfishness of heart, his administration will be recalled only in the hour of refreshment and social intercourse. The gathering of the faithful around the banquet table is as ancient as Masonry itself, and I am not now writing in opposition to this time-honored custom, but desire to urge moderation, so that the appeals of charity may not go unrewarded by reason of a depleted treasury.

#### GRAND CHAPTER, DELAWARE.

On January 18, 1893, I accepted an invitation from the Grand Chapter of Delaware to be present at the Twenty-fifth Anniversary of their Grand Chapter. I was accompanied to the city of Wilmington by the Most Excellent Grand Secretary, Companion Charles E. Meyer, and to the best of our abilities we represented this Grand Body. A number of sister jurisdictions were represented, and in accordance with a previous arrangement an address was made by each Grand High Priest.

A large number of Companions accompanied by ladies were present after the regular business of the Grand Chapter was transacted, and from the pleased expressions upon the faces of our sisters, I make the prediction that our good Brethren of Delaware escaped at least one midnight curtain lecture.

The Chapters of Delaware, though few in number, are active and growing, and we have reason to be proud of our neighbor and child of our creation.

#### WORK AND JURISPRUDENCE.

In accordance with the announcement made in my address of last year, I called the Committee on Work and Jurisprudence together early in January last, and had rehearsed all the work pertaining to Capitular Masonry. The Committee agreeing on all points as to the correct and recognized work, I invited before them Companion Most Excellent Grand Scribe Richard M. Johnson, who is also Principal of the Temple School of Instruction. He rehearsed before the Committee the work as taught by him in the above School, and where this work differed from that recognized by the Grand Chapter it was changed accordingly, and authority given to Companion Johnson to teach the work and, for the better diffusion of Masonic light and knowledge, to assist in establishing schools of instruction throughout the State.

The first step in this direction was to announce the slight changes in the Temple School of this city already established, and to urge an increased membership, particularly from the city Chapters and those comprising the district in the immediate charge of Companion Johnson.

The first District Deputy to adopt my suggestion that their districts be organized into schools was Companion Michael W. Jacobs, of Harrisburg, at whose request, accompanied by Companion Johnson, I visited the city of Harrisburg, March 7, 1893,

and in the evening organized a school, the membership and attendance of which included every Chapter in District No. 5. The school meets every two weeks, and its good effect is already apparent throughout the District of which Companion Jacobs is the respected and energetic head. Its present officers are Clark E. Diehl, President; Frank Ridgway, Secretary and Treasurer; Joseph Pomeroy and Lewis L. Banks, Instructors.

For several years a school has been in existence in Pittsburgh, but as it was never recognized by this Grand Body, I accepted an invitation from the efficient District Deputy of that district, John McKain, and in company with Companions Most Excellent Grand Secretary Meyer and Most Excellent Grand Scribe Johnson, visited the above school on the evening of April 26. We found there an enthusiastic body of Companions already well instructed and disciplined, yet eager to correct imperfections and receive counsel. Companion District Deputy Grand High Priest John M. Van Vleit, accompanied by a number of Companions from his district, was present, and from the marked attention paid, the large attendance and the fraternal spirit that prevailed, I am not surprised to hear flattering reports from our western child.

The present officers of this school are Companion William O. Wright, President; Companion Joseph G. Morris, Treasurer; Companion George W. Robitzer, Secretary; Companion John McKain, Instructor; Companions David M. Kinzer and William M. Hamilton, Assistant Instructors.

Leaving Pittsburgh on the morning of April 27, we visited Urania Chapter, No. 192, at Greensburg, Companion Cyrus N. Stark, District Deputy. We were cordially welcomed at the station by High Priest Companion Janeway and Companion J. Covode Reed, who, as Mayor, gave us the freedom of the beautiful mountain city.

We inspected the work of the Chapter in the evening and made

necessary corrections. The long distance traveled by many of the Companions, and the general interest manifested by all present, was a pleasing evidence of our welcome among them. Among the visiting Companions to whom we are indebted for courtesies shown, was our handsome and always gallant Companion Capt. Harry H. Kuhn, Companion Charles C. Wehn, the respected High Priest of Chapter No. 195, and the irrepressible Companion Curtis G. Campbell, Past High Priest of the same Chapter.

Leaving Greensburg on the morning of April 28, we arrived at Newport, and at 4 o'clock that afternoon visited Newport Chapter, No. 238, of which Chapter I have the honor to be a Past High Priest. The pleasing feature of this visitation was the conferring of the degrees of Royal Arch Masonry upon a candidate, who in my early life frequently conferred upon me the degrees of industry, obedience and truthfulness with muscular positiveness. Nothing better marks the progress of Christian forbearance, and illustrates the forgiving spirit suggested throughout all the teachings of Free-masonry, than that after years of imaginary persecution I was willing to return good for evil by bringing the candidate a way he knew not, through paths he had not known, and making darkness light before his eyes, and crooked things straight. By virtue of my presence the degrees were conferred upon my father, who is now past 77 years, and has been a Master Mason for over 40 years, and Treasurer of his Lodge for a period of 35 years, but until recently uninclined to inquire further into the mysteries of Free-masonry. The Mark Master Masons' degree was conferred upon him by Most Excellent Grand Scribe Companion Richard M. Johnson. The Most Excellent Master's degree by District Deputy Grand High Priest Companion Martin L. Shaffner, and the Royal Arch degree by the Most Excellent Grand High Priest.

This prerogative of the Grand High Priest to make Royal Arch Masons at sight has been formerly exercised but once during a

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period of 100 years, although the use of the same prerogative by a Grand Master is not unusual.

#### THE GENERAL GRAND CHAPTER.

At the Quarterly Communication, in June, the Committee appointed to consider and report upon the invitation of the General Grand Chapter of Royal Arch Masons of the United States of America to the Most Excellent Grand Chapters of Pennsylvania and Virginia, to become constituent members of the said General Grand Chapter, after a careful and impartial review of the subject, in which, among other things, they say:

“Such a union would necessitate not only a complete reforming of our Constitution and of the entire system of Royal Arch Masonry in Pennsylvania, as hereinbefore indicated, but it would compel new duties and additional obligations, and we are satisfied that the risks of a possible failure are too great to justify the experiment.

“The harmony and fraternal regard now existing between us and the General Grand Chapter are too precious to subject them to the test of a union which might divide rather than combine, and which, no doubt for the reasons herein urged, has been heretofore declined by us.”

They then offered the following resolutions, which were unanimously adopted:

“1. *Resolved*, That the Most Excellent Grand Holy Royal Arch Chapter of Pennsylvania thanks the General Grand Chapter of Royal Arch Masons of the United States of America for its fraternal invitation to become one of its constituent members.

“2. *Resolved*, That we deem it inexpedient to accept the invitation so kindly extended to us, and

“3. *Resolved*, That the Grand Officers advise the officers of the General Grand Chapter of our action by transmitting a certified

copy of these resolutions and of the report to which they are attached."

#### GRAND VISITATIONS.

The duty of visitation devolves upon the Grand High Priest, and in fulfillment of that duty a series of visitations was arranged, and on Monday, October 16, the Grand Officers left Broad Street Station for Harrisburg, and at six o'clock that evening visited Perseverance Chapter, No. 21, and were cordially welcomed by Companion Clark E. Diehl, King of the Chapter, acting High Priest in the absence of Companion Donaldson. The M. M. Masons' degree was exemplified by Chapter No. 43, Lancaster, Companion Henry Carpenter, High Priest.

The M. E. M. degree by Chapter No. 237, of Reading, Companion Samuel E. Nies, High Priest.

The R. A. degree was exemplified by Perseverance Chapter, No. 21, Clark E. Diehl, acting High Priest.

At the conclusion of the work in each degree, any imperfections were corrected and where commendation was merited it was given. Upon the whole, the work of the above three Chapters is creditable, and is highly commendable to the District Deputies in whose districts the Chapters are located. Ample evidence of our welcome was plainly visible around the well-supplied banquet hall, and at the close of the evening we congratulated ourselves upon the success of our initial step.

A pleasant ride along the banks of the Juniata the following day brought us to Huntingdon, where, in the evening, we visited Standing Stone Chapter, No. 201, Companion Harry W. Read, High Priest.

The M. M. Masons' degree was exemplified by Mountain Chapter, No. 189, Altoona, Companion George Wichum, High Priest, and the R. A. degree by Standing Stone Chapter, No. 201. The

fact that these Chapters are in the district so ably directed by Companion Martin L. Shaffner is sufficient guarantee of the correctness of the work, and it affords me much pleasure to thus publicly thank Companion Shaffner for his untiring devotion to his duties as District Deputy.

The third evening found us in the comfortable Chapter Hall at Bellefonte, where we were fraternally welcomed not only by the officers and members of Chapter No. 241, but by District Deputy Grand High Priest, Companion Daniel B. Else, and a large delegation from each Chapter in his district.

The M. M. Masons' degree was exemplified by the officers of Clearfield Chapter, No. 228, and Companion Denlinger proved himself not only an agreeable and enthusiastic Mason but an impressive and correct worker.

The M. E. M. degree by Lycoming Chapter, No. 222, Companion Herbert R. Laird, High Priest, and the R. A. degree by Lafayette Chapter, No. 163, Companion Franklin M. Ross, High Priest, were carefully exemplified, and while they did not entirely escape the critical ear of Companion Johnson, their work showed evidence of careful thought and training.

The officers are men of exceptional ability and will soon forget the slight imperfections and adopt the work as now recognized by the Grand Chapter.

At a late hour we were willing victims at a carefully prepared banquet, and our grateful recollections will always abide with our host.

A beautiful autumn morning greeted us the fourth day out, and on our arrival at Johnstown we were met by a number of Companions and driven to places of interest, of which there are many surrounding this memorable mountain city. No vestige of the disastrous flood of May 31, 1889, was to be seen along the busy streets of the unfortunate city, but in every direction in the ceme-

terry can you behold sad and silent reminders of the most notable disaster of modern times.

In the evening a visit was made to Portage Chapter, No. 195. In addition to the members, visiting Companions were present from seven different Chapters in Pennsylvania, two of New York, one of Alabama and one of Canada.

After the Grand Officers had been received in the usual manner, and had assumed the several stations and places, and a report on the minutes of the Chapter had been made by the Grand Secretary, the M. E. Grand Scribe, Companion Richard M. Johnson, assisted by the Grand Officers, exemplified the M. M. Masons' degree. At the conclusion of the exemplification, and fraternal remarks by a number of the Grand Officers, we were escorted to the banquet hall, where an elaborate and sumptuous menu was spread, and this was followed by an intellectual and fraternal feast, over which the able and humorous symposiarch, Companion W. Horace Rose, presided. It was here that certain members of my staff most distinguished themselves, showing that they were not only correct and graceful workers upon the Chapter floor, but equally well fitted for after-dinner speeches.

Nine o'clock Friday morning came quite too soon, but it found us on our way to Pittsburgh, which city we reached at 12 o'clock, and at 5 o'clock visited Duquesne Chapter, No. 193, Companion William M. Hamilton, High Priest.

The M. M. Masons' degree was conferred by Companion David M. Kinzer, Scribe of No. 162, as W. M.; Companion B. Frank Moyer, King of No. 162, as S. W.; and Herman Junker, Scribe of No. 193, as J. W. The M. E. M. degree was conferred by Companion B. Frank Moyer, King of No. 162, as M. E. M.; Companion William M. Hamilton, High Priest of No. 193, as S. W.; and Herman Junker, Scribe of No. 193, as J. W.; and the R. A. degree was rehearsed with Companion Joseph G. Morris, High Priest

of No. 217, as High Priest; Companion John A. Noel, King of No. 193, as King; and Companion Herman Junker, Scribe of No. 193, as Scribe. The work was well done, and received the approval and commendation of the Grand Officers, and well-merited compliments were passed upon the efficient District Deputy Grand High Priest, Companion John McKain, who has devoted much time and labor in instructing the officers of his district, and bringing the work to the high standard it now enjoys.

Contrary to their usual custom, the good brethren of Pittsburgh threw open the doors of their banquet hall and gave us a genuine touch of Western hospitality, and I was gratified to observe that upon this last night of a busy week all of my officers were able to do justice to the carefully prepared refreshments, and fittingly respond to the various toasts proposed.

While grateful to all the Grand Officers who accompanied me upon this visit through the State, I especially acknowledge the assistance and pleasant companionship of Companions Wells, Frazier and McClary, who accompanied me throughout the entire trip as substitutes for those who were unable to go.

The Grand Officers returned to their homes on Saturday, and enjoyed a well-earned and needed rest, for while there is a certain amount of pleasure to be had from these Grand Visitations, it is not all play, but much hard work is exacted in order that our efforts may be fraught with beneficial results.

A kindly Providence seemed to be in sympathy with our *pilgrimage*; no misfortune of any character came near us; beautiful autumn weather gave to the variegated foliage on mountain side and top additional splendor; the broad and fertile valleys of Chester and Lancaster, the picturesque and historic Juniata, the winding ways of the Bald Eagle and the flood-washed banks of the Conemaugh, each suggested a volume of thought and was thoroughly enjoyed.

During the week we inspected the work of fifteen different Chap-

ters, having conceived the idea of inviting several Chapters to work the degrees on the same evening. The promptness and willingness with which they all responded to my request is gratifying to me, and it has certainly been beneficial to the Chapters; a commendable spirit of rivalry was manifested as to who could best work and best agree, and future visitations conducted in the same way will still further develop a laudable ambition.

#### HARMONY.

On the evening of November 3, accompanied by my Grand Officers, I visited Harmony Chapter, No. 52, George B. Wells, High Priest. After a most cordial welcome by the High Priest, a report upon the minutes by the Grand Secretary, and an address by the Grand High Priest, we witnessed the conferring of the M.M.M. degree upon seventeen candidates. The work was done by Companion Daniel W. Hutchin, Scribe of the Chapter, and as it is considered a crime punishable nigh unto death to make a mistake in this Chapter, it being the home of the "Grand Critic," Companion Johnson, we were all delighted to see Companion Hutchin pass through the ordeal without a scar. This is the second largest Chapter in point of numbers within the jurisdiction of Pennsylvania, having nearly 900 active members.

During the past year, through the activity of Companion Wells, High Priest, and his efficient corps of officers, 76 members have been exalted to the supreme degree of Royal Arch Mason. In point of interest, correct and impressive work and regular attendance, this Chapter is equal to any in this jurisdiction, and is fast encroaching upon the popularity and numerical strength of her Oriental rival.

The feast that followed the labors of the evening was in every way creditable to the Chapter and director of affairs.

## GERMANTOWN.

On the evening of November 20, accompanied by my Grand Officers and several Past Grand High Priests, I paid a grand visitation to Germantown Chapter, No. 208, Companion Louis M. Wagner, High Priest, who gave us a fraternal welcome, and made the evening an unusually pleasant one for the Grand Officers, and a large number of visiting Companions, who by their presence attested their friendship and regard for the High Priest and his growing Chapter.

The work of the evening was the M. E. Master Masons' degree, which was conferred upon five candidates by the King of the Chapter, Companion Edward Jacobs, in an able and satisfactory manner. We were not permitted to return home without partaking of the hospitality for which this Chapter is noted.

## CONCLUSION.

The Communications of the Grand Chapter during the year have been well attended. Many of the faces are familiar, having been regular in their attendance for years, but it is gratifying to see among those whose silvery locks indicate years of patient toil, a generous sprinkling of younger Companions gathering inspiration, and assuring their aged brethren that the devotion and fidelity which characterized their Masonic lives would nerve them to higher and nobler aspirations. While there is nothing new in Masonry, there is yet much to be discovered, and since the rebuilding of the Temple of our fathers, around which so many pleasant memories cluster, the intellect and energies of the devotees of our grand old Fraternity have been occupied in contributing to the advancement of this great and glorious enterprise, and in bringing to light some hidden treasure that would enlighten and edify generations yet to come. Let us each do our part, that the world may be better for our having lived, and posterity wiser because of our devotion to an

institution which has done more to relieve distress, elevate humanity, and foster and encourage correct living than any Society instituted by man.

I am grateful for the attention and assistance of all the Grand Officers, and for the kindness and consideration shown me by the members of this Grand Body.

Your continued confidence makes the pathway to another year more inviting, and the duties of my station pleasant to contemplate.

So much of the Minutes of the last Quarterly Communication of December 7, 1893, as refers to the election of Grand Officers, was then read.

All but Past High Priests who had received the order of High Priesthood having retired,

Comp. EDGAR A. TENNIS was installed as MOST EXCELLENT GRAND HIGH PRIEST of the GRAND HOLY ROYAL ARCH CHAPTER OF PENNSYLVANIA AND MASONIC JURISDICTION THEREUNTO BELONGING.

He was duly proclaimed as such and received the salutations of the Craft.

The Companions who had retired were readmitted, when the following Grand Officers were severally installed, and were each duly proclaimed and received the salutations of the Craft:

Comp. EZRA S. BARTLETT, . . . . .	<i>M. E. Grand King.</i>
“ RICHARD M. JOHNSON, . . . . .	<i>M. E. Grand Scribe.</i>
“ THOMAS R. PATTON, . . . . .	<i>M. E. Grand Treasurer.</i>
“ CHARLES CARY, . . . . .	<i>M. E. Grand Secretary.</i>

The M. E. Grand High Priest announced the following appointments for the present Masonic year, commencing this day :

*Grand Captain of the Host.*

Comp. L. HASSELL LAPP, of Philadelphia.

*Grand Principal Sojourner.*

Comp. EDWIN H. COANE, of Philadelphia.

*Grand Royal Arch Captain.*

Comp. LOUIS WAGNER, of Philadelphia.

*Grand Chaplains.*

Comp. Rev. HENRY S. GETZ, D.D., of Philadelphia.  
" Rev. CHARLES W. STOCK, of Hanover.  
" Rev. LUTHER F. SMITH, of Altoona.  
" Rev. JEREMIAH M. CARVELL, of Middletown.  
" Rev. ALBERT W. RYAN, of Warren.  
" Rev. BENJAMIN F. DELO, of Clarion.

*Grand Master of Third Veil.*

Comp. HARRY M. VAN ZANDT, of Harrisburg.

*Grand Master of Second Veil.*

Comp. GEORGE B. WELLS, of Philadelphia.

*Grand Master of First Veil.*

Comp. SAMUEL W. LATTA, M.D., of Philadelphia.

*Grand Marshal.*

Comp. ROBERT J. LINDEN, of Philadelphia.

*Senior Grand Master of Ceremonies.*

Comp. ADAM H. SCHMEHL, of Reading.

*Junior Grand Master of Ceremonies.*

Comp. SAMUEL I. GIVIN, of Philadelphia.

*Grand Pursuivant.*

Comp. FRANK M. HIGHLEY, of Philadelphia.

*Grand Tyler.*

Comp. WILLIAM A. SINN, of Philadelphia.

*Committee on Work and Jurisprudence.*

M. E. Comp. GEORGE W. KENDRICK, Jr., P. G. H. P.,  
 " HIBBERT P. JOHN, P. G. H. P.,  
 " GEORGE E. WAGNER, P. G. H. P.,  
 " JAMES S. BARBER, P. G. H. P.

In conjunction with the Most Excellent Grand High Priest.

*Committee on Finance.*

Comp. WILLIAM J. KELLY,  
 " M. RICHARDS MUCKLÉ,  
 " SAMUEL W. WRAY,  
 " CHARLES W. PACKER,  
 " ELLSWORTH H. HULTS.

*Committee on Correspondence.*

Comp. MATTHIAS H. HENDERSON, P. G. H. P.,  
 " CHARLES E. MEYER, P. G. H. P.,  
 " J. SIMPSON AFRICA,  
 " JOSHUA L. LYTE,  
 " JOHN P. CLARK.

*Committee on By-Laws.*

Comp. J. ALEXANDER SIMPSON,  
 " ISAAC N. GRUBB,  
 " CHARLES P. KEECH,  
 " DAVID A. STEVENSON,  
 " J. ALDEN KNIGHT.

*Committee on Appeals.*

M. E. Comp. ALEXANDER H. MORGAN, P. G. H. P.,  
 " GEORGE S. HIBBS,  
 " AMOS W. SHELLEY,  
 " GEORGE B. WELLS,  
 " WILLIAM M. DONALDSON.

*Committee on Charity.*

Comp. CONRAD B. DAY.  
" N. FERREE LIGHTNER,  
" ROBERT L. HOLLIDAY,  
" EDWARD B. SPENCER,  
" ALEXANDER McCUNE.

*Committee on Printing and Publishing.*

Comp. JAMES BLELOCH,  
" CHARLES CARY,  
" ARTHUR THACHER,  
" ALTON G. SCHOLL,  
" HORACE BEARD.

*District Deputy Grand High Priests.*

The County of Philadelphia will be under the M. E. Grand High Priest, Comp. Edgar A. Tennis.

1. Comp. M. E. Grand Scribe, Richard M. Johnson, for County of Chester.

2. Comp. John McKain, of Pittsburgh, for Counties of Allegheny, Beaver and Washington.

3. Comp. Curtis G. Campbell, of Johnstown, for Counties of Greene, Fayette, Westmoreland, Somerset and Cambria.

4. Comp. John K. Sprenkel, of York, for the Counties of Lancaster, Adams and York.

5. Comp. Stephen H. Appleton, of Media, for the County of Delaware.

6. Comp. Michael W. Jacobs, of Harrisburg, for the Counties of Dauphin, Cumberland, Franklin and Northumberland.

7. Comp. Thaddeus S. Adle, of Norristown, for the Counties of Montgomery and Bucks.

8. Comp. Michael W. Reinoehl, of Lebanon, for the Counties of Berks and Lebanon.

9. Comp. Charles F. Derr, of Pottsville, for the County of Schuylkill.

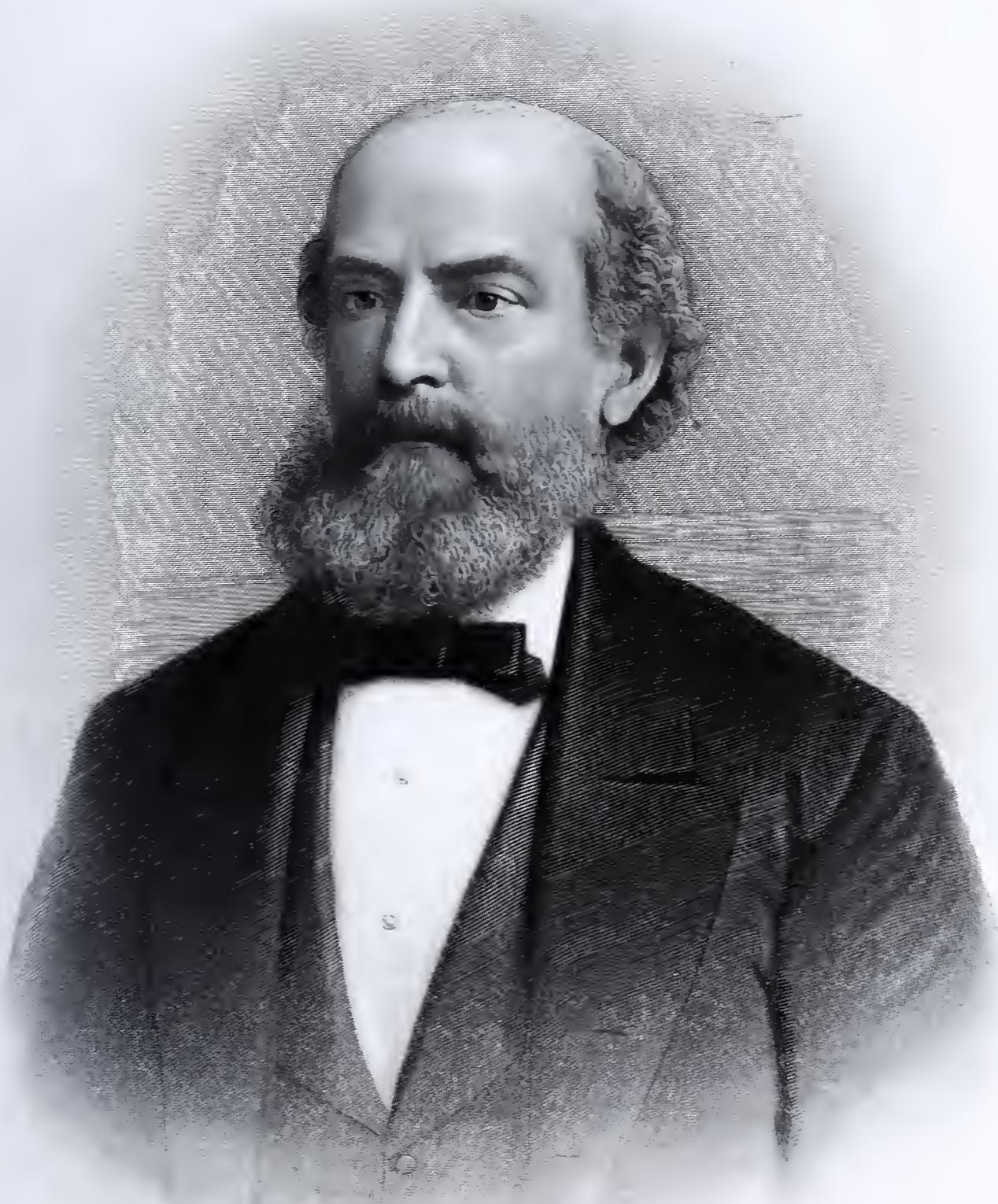
10. Comp. Luther M. Fine, of Easton, for the Counties of Lehigh, Northampton, Carbon and Monroe.

11. Comp. George P. Lindsay, of Plymouth, for the Counties of Luzerne and Pike.
12. Comp. James H. Codding, of Towanda, for the Counties of Bradford, Sullivan and Tioga, and Chapter 172 at Tunkhannock.
13. Comp. Caleb C. Thompson, of Warren, for the Counties of Warren, Venango and Forest.
14. Comp. William K. Jones, of Coudersport, for the Counties of McKean, Potter and Cameron.
15. Comp. Daniel B. Else, of Williamsport, for the Counties of Lycoming, Clinton, Snyder, Centre, Union and Chapter 264 at Shamokin.
16. Comp. Frederick L. Brown, of Scranton, for Counties of Lackawanna, Wayne, Susquehanna and Wyoming, except Chapter 172 at Tunkhannock.
17. Comp. Martin L. Schaffner, of Huntingdon, for Counties of Mifflin, Bedford, Huntingdon, Juniata, Fulton, Perry, Clearfield and Blair.
18. Comp. Alured P. Burton, of Erie, for Counties of Erie and Crawford.
19. Comp. Alfred F. Henlein, of Greenville, for Counties of Mercer and Lawrence.
20. Comp. Harvey A. McKillip, of Bloomsburg, for Counties of Montour and Columbia.
21. Comp. John M. Van Vliet, of Brookville, for Counties of Jefferson, Elk, Clarion, Butler and Armstrong.

Grand Chapter was then closed in peace at eight o'clock and fifty minutes P.M.

CHARLES CARY,

*Grand Secretary.*



Sam C. Perkins

Sam C. Perkins

H. C. Grand High Priest.  
1866-1868



## PAST GRAND HIGH PRIESTS

OF THE

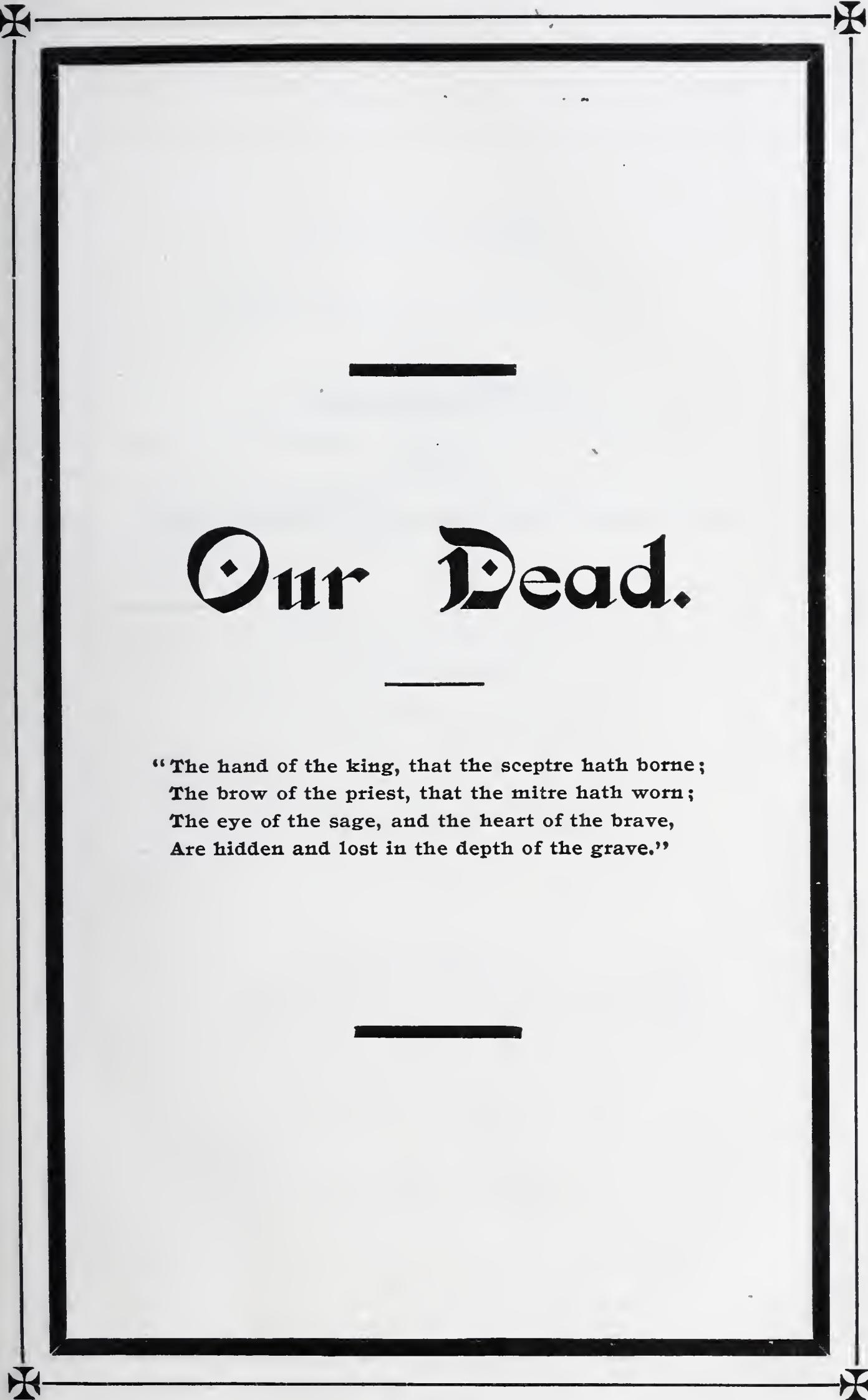
Grand Holy Royal Arch Chapter of  
Pennsylvania.

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1795, WILLIAM BALL.†  
1796-1797, WILLIAM MOORE SMITH.†  
1798-1802, JONATHAN BAYARD SMITH.†  
1803-1805, ISRAEL ISRAEL.†  
1806-1813, JAMES MILNOR.†  
1814, RICHARD TYBOUT.†  
1815, SAMUEL F. BRADFORD.†  
1816-1817, WALTER KERR.†  
1818-1821, BAYSE NEWCOMB.†  
1822-1823, JOSIAH RANDALL.†  
1824, MICHAEL NISBET.†  
1825, JOHN STEELE, JR.†  
1826, TRISTRAM B. FREEMAN.†  
1827, JOSEPH S. RILEY.†  
1828-1830, JOHN M. READ.†  
1831-1832, SAMUEL H. PERKINS.†  
1833, ENOS S. GANDY.†  
1834, JOHN Y. BLACK.†  
1835-1839, JOSEPH R. CHANDLER.†  
1840-1841, ALEXANDER DIAMOND.†  
1842-1843, WILLIAM WHITNEY.†

1844-1845, WILLIAM BARGER.†  
1846, JOHN W. MCGRATH.†  
1847, JOHN J. KRIDER.†  
1848, JAMES SIMPSON.†  
1849-1850, DAVID C. SKERRETT, M.D.†  
1851-1852, EDWARD P. LESCURE.†  
1853, ANTHONY BOURNONVILLE, M.D.†  
1854-1855, HARMAN BAUGH.†  
1856, JOHN C. SMITH.†  
1857-1858, DANIEL THOMPSON.†  
1859, BENJAMIN PARKE.†  
1860-1861, HARMAN YERKES.†  
1862-1863, JEREMIAH L. HUTCHINSON.  
1864-1865, GEORGE W. WOOD.†  
1866-1867, SAMUEL C. PERKINS.  
1868-1869, GEORGE GRISCOM.†  
1870-1871, MICHAEL NISBET.  
1872-1873, CHARLES E. MEYER.  
1874-1875, ANDREW ROBENO, JR.†  
1876, GEORGE E. WAGNER.  
1877-1878, ALFRED R. POTTER.†  
1879-1880, WILLIAM C. HAMILTON, M.D.  
1881-1882, HIBBERT P. JOHN.  
1883-1884, AUGUSTUS R. HALL.†  
1885-1886, GEORGE W. KENDRICK, JR.  
1887-1888, MATTHIAS H. HENDERSON.  
1889-1890, JAMES S. BARBER.  
1891-1892, ALEXANDER H. MORGAN.  
1893-1894, EDGAR A. TENNIS.

Those marked † are deceased.



# Our Dead.

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“The hand of the king, that the sceptre hath borne;  
The brow of the priest, that the mitre hath worn;  
The eye of the sage, and the heart of the brave,  
Are hidden and lost in the depth of the grave.”

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## In Memoriam.

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**Past Grand High Priest AUGUSTUS R. HALL.**

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P. M. Lodge No. 72, F. & A. M.

P. H. P. Chapter No. 3, R. A. M.

M. E. G. H. P. 1883-1884.

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**DIED, OCTOBER 7, 1893.**

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“Life’s labors done,  
Serenely to his final rest he passed,  
While the soft memory of his virtues yet  
Lingers like twilight hues when the bright sun is set.”



## In Memoriam.

"The air is full of farewells to the dying,  
And mournings for the dead."

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**ROBERT A. LAMBERTON,**  
**Past Grand Master of Masons of Pennsylvania.**

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P. M. Lodge No. 21, F. & A. M.  
P. H. P. Chapter No. 21, R. A. M.  
P. D. D. G. H. P.

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**DIED, SEPTEMBER 1, 1893.**

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**EDWIN G. MARTIN, M.D.**

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P. M. Lodge No. 333, F. & A. M.  
P. H. P. Chapter No. 203, R. A. M.  
P. D. D. G. H. P.

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**DIED, AUGUST 30, 1893.**

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**JOHN J. WADSWORTH.**

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P. M. Lodge No. 455, F. & A. M.  
P. H. P. Chapter No. 215, R. A. M.  
P. D. D. G. H. P.

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**DIED, MAY 9, 1893.**



## In Memoriam.

“They are not dead ; their stars go down,  
To rise upon some fairer shore,  
And bright in heaven’s jeweled crown  
They shine forevermore.”

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### JEREMIAH D. JENKINS.

Scribe of Chapter No. 180, R. A. M.

**DIED, JUNE 11, 1893.**

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### WILLIAM D. SPIKING.

P. H. P. Chapter No. 162.

**DIED, APRIL 24, 1893.**

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### H. WEIR WORKMAN.

P. H. P. Chapter No. 183.

**DIED, JUNE 11, 1893.**

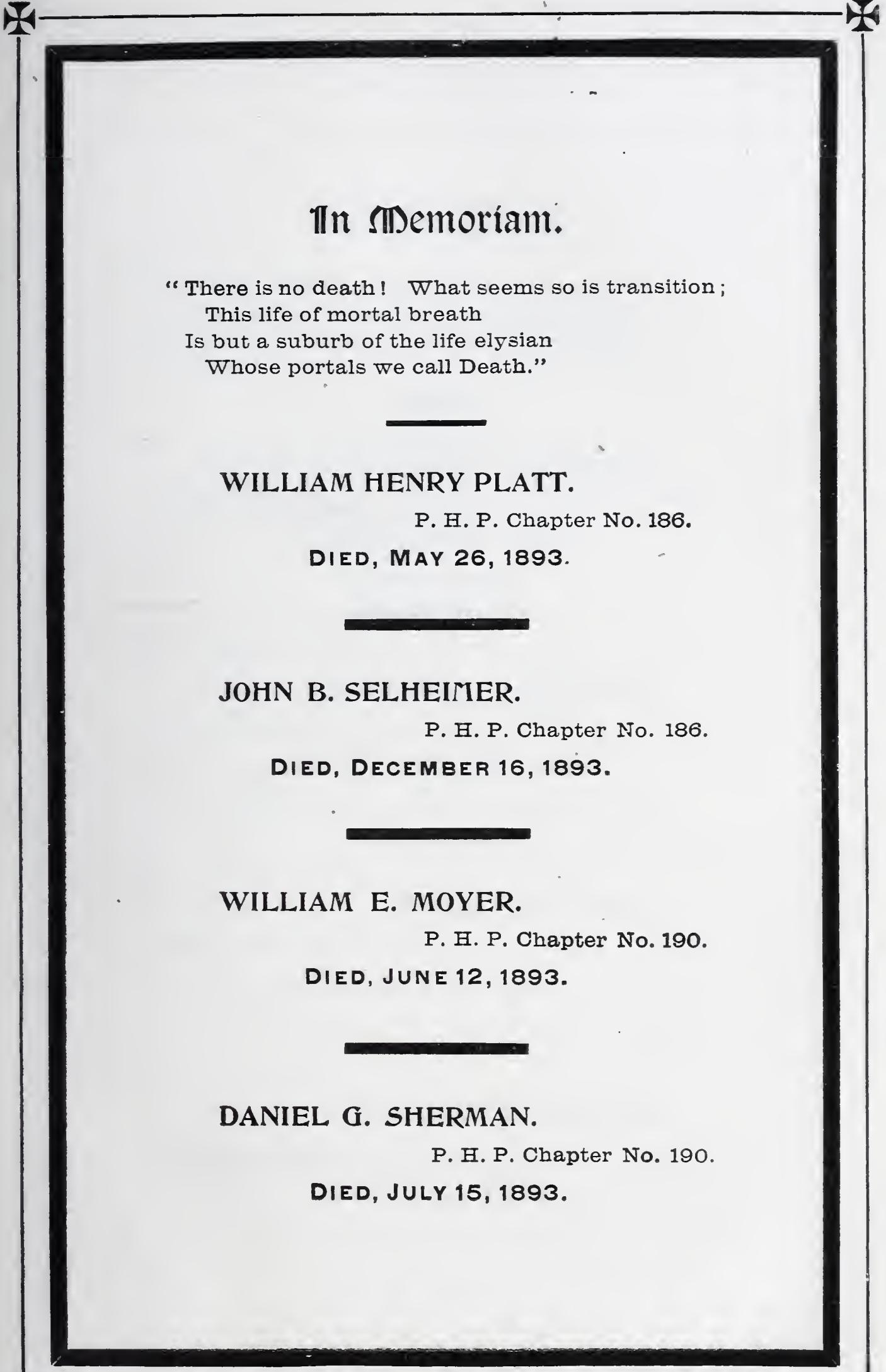
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### FRANK J. POWELL.

P. H. P. Chapter No. 185.

**DIED, JULY 24, 1893.**

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## In Memoriam.

“There is no death! What seems so is transition;  
This life of mortal breath  
Is but a suburb of the life elysian  
Whose portals we call Death.”

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### WILLIAM HENRY PLATT.

P. H. P. Chapter No. 186.

**DIED, MAY 26, 1893.**

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### JOHN B. SELHEIMER.

P. H. P. Chapter No. 186.

**DIED, DECEMBER 16, 1893.**

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### WILLIAM E. MOYER.

P. H. P. Chapter No. 190.

**DIED, JUNE 12, 1893.**

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### DANIEL G. SHERMAN.

P. H. P. Chapter No. 190.

**DIED, JULY 15, 1893.**



## In Memoriam.

“The strife is o'er, the battle done,  
The victory of life is won,  
The song of triumph is begun.”

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### STURGES T. DICK.

P. H. P. Chapter No. 191.

**DIED, JULY 14, 1893.**

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### WILLIAM H. ROBERTS.

P. H. P. Chapter No. 194.

**DIED, OCTOBER 21, 1893.**

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### JOHN CARTLEDGE.

P. H. P. Chapter No. 226.

**DIED, APRIL 19, 1893.**

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### GEORGE M. TAYLOR.

P. H. P. Chapter No. 226.

**DIED, JULY, 1893.**

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## In Memoriam.



“Leaves have their time to fall,  
And flowers to wither at the North-wind’s breath,  
And stars to set; but all—  
Thou hast all seasons for thine own, O Death.”

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### DAVID CLARK.

P. H. P. Chapter No. 239.

**DIED, DECEMBER 17, 1893.**



### WILLIAM D. EVANS.

P. H. P. Chapter No. 242.

**DIED, DECEMBER, 1893.**



### ABRAHAM C. W. BEECHER, M.D.

P. H. P. Chapter No. 250.

**DIED, NOVEMBER 7, 1893.**



### GEORGE W. HASLETT.

P. H. P. Chapter No. 257.

**DIED, JANUARY 13, 1893.**



### DANIEL R. COFRODE.

P. H. P. Chapter No. 271.

**DIED, FEBRUARY 3, 1893.**



## Report on Correspondence.

The Committee on Correspondence again offer their annual report. The proceedings of the jurisdictions with which we are in correspondence have been allotted as they were last year and have been reviewed by the following Companions:

Alabama . . . . .	Matthias H. Henderson, P. G. H. P.
Arizona . . . . .	
Arkansas . . . . .	
California . . . . .	
Canada . . . . .	
Colorado . . . . .	
Connecticut . . . . .	
Delaware . . . . .	
District of Columbia . . . . .	
Grand Mark Lodge of England )	
Florida . . . . .	Charles E. Meyer, P. G. H. P.
Georgia . . . . .	
Illinois . . . . .	
Indiana . . . . .	
Indian Territory. . . . .	
Iowa . . . . .	
Kansas . . . . .	
Kentucky . . . . .	
Louisiana . . . . .	
Maine . . . . .	J. Simpson Africa.
Maryland . . . . .	
Massachusetts . . . . .	
Michigan . . . . .	
Minnesota . . . . .	
Mississippi . . . . .	
Missouri . . . . .	
Montana . . . . .	
Nebraska . . . . .	

Nevada . . . . .	}	Joshua L. Lyte.
New Brunswick . . . . .		
New Hampshire . . . . .		
New Jersey . . . . .		
New York . . . . .		
North Carolina . . . . .		
North Dakota . . . . .		
Nova Scotia . . . . .		
Ohio . . . . .		
Oregon . . . . .		
Quebec . . . . .	}	John P. Clark.
South Carolina . . . . .		
South Dakota . . . . .		
Tennessee . . . . .		
Texas . . . . .		
Vermont . . . . .		
Virginia . . . . .		
Washington . . . . .		
West Virginia . . . . .		
Wisconsin . . . . .		
Scotland . . . . .		

This allotment is made at the beginning of the year before the proceedings, or many of them at least, have been received. As they come in they are sent to the reviewer to whom they were assigned and this is continued until the report must be closed to go to the printer. If any do not appear in the report it is because they have not been received in time. It is our desire to make the report as complete as possible, and none are designedly omitted. Those that come in too late for this report will appear in the one of next year.

We have discussed all the leading questions in Masonic jurisprudence and ethics that have presented themselves, such as physical qualifications, the power of a Grand High Priest to issue a dispensation in contravention of a By-Law, the propriety of publishing the names of Companions suspended for non-payment of dues, dual membership, the use of substitutes in conferring the Royal Arch degree, and the dependence of Chapter membership on membership in a Lodge. We have discussed these questions and defended our position with all the force at our command, but have

endeavored to do so temperately and with due respect for the opinions of others. To refuse to discuss them would defeat the object for which Committees on Correspondence were formed, and, if persisted in, would result in their discontinuance, depriving us of what, in our opinion, is as interesting as any part of the proceedings.

There is a subject upon which the Grand Chapter of Pennsylvania has been much criticised, good naturally it is true, but nevertheless our course has not been approved, viz., our refusal to affiliate with and give our allegiance to the General Grand Chapter. In our report of a year ago, which is the first we wrote, we refrained from discussing this question for the reason that it was then in the hands of a competent committee of our Grand Chapter and we did not think it becoming in us to anticipate what they might say. Their report has been made and unanimously adopted and is published in this volume. Those who read it carefully will, we think, consider the question settled. We are not hostile to the General Grand Chapter nor have we any desire to disintegrate it. We are willing that those who want it should have it, but we think it can confer no benefits on us. It is pleasing to know that we stand so high in the estimation of our Companions that they should desire our company, and we thank them for the invitation so eloquently extended by their representative; but this feeling, gratifying as it is, is not strong enough to induce us to surrender the sovereignty and independence we have enjoyed for nearly one hundred years. It has been said of us that we are inconsistent in that our Grand Commandery is a constituent of the Grand Encampment of the United States. While Templar matters are not a proper subject for this report, we will take the occasion to say that our experience with that body has much to do with our reluctance to form any other *general* connections. We might retaliate by stating that some jurisdictions which are ardent in their support of the General Grand Chapter, have been loudest in their

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denunciation of the several attempts which have been made to establish a General Grand Lodge. If they value the one why do they not want the other? So long as the General Grand Chapter maintains its present attitude towards us, and does not interfere with our rights and prerogatives, we will recognize it as a body with which we are in amicable relation, but closer than that we do not care to be. We have devoted more space to this question than we intended, and will dismiss it with the request that our motives in standing aloof be respected, and that further criticisms and strictures be withheld. The liberty we grant to others we ask for ourselves.

The universality of Freemasonry is attested by the fact that not only in our own land, from ocean to ocean, and from the lakes to the gulf, but in every part of the world where civilized man has penetrated, our altars are raised and our rites are practiced. Freemasonry keeps step with our advancing population and the emigrant to new scenes and fresh fields carries with him the principles of our Fraternity, which, planted in the virgin soil, flourish and bring forth fruit abundantly. If it needs any defense it is found in the fact that it has existed so long that the memory of man runneth not to the contrary, that it has seen empires, dynasties and religions rise, flourish, crumble and die; that it has survived the most vindictive and persistent persecution, that it has outlived its traducers and increased in the face of all antagonism. Surely an institution which can boast of such a career must possess inherent qualities which commend it. Brethren and Companions, the shock which disrupts our beloved Fraternity will never come from the outside and we have no fear for its future if we are but true to ourselves. Let us adhere closely to the ancient landmarks our forefathers set and which have stood the test of so many centuries. Let us never forget that there is an all-wise and merciful God above us, that there is a future life awaiting us in which we will be rewarded or punished as we deserve. Let us keep sectarian and political dis-

cussions out of our meetings and extend to others that charity we ask for ourselves, and until time becomes eternity Freemasonry will be a blessing to mankind. These thoughts may not be altogether pertinent to the introduction of such a report as ours, but they came to us as we wrote and we could not refrain from giving them expression.

It is proper to state that this introduction is written by the Chairman, who has had no conference with his colleagues as to the nature of this report, but from his knowledge of their sentiments he believes they will not be much at variance with what he has expressed.

We acknowledge the receipt from Comps. Seranus Bowen, Grand Secretary of the Grand Chapter of Massachusetts, and Charles C. Keifer, Grand Secretary of the Grand Chapter of Ohio, of a copy of the proceedings of their respective Grand Chapters for 1893, which they sent to us as Chairman of our Committee. We have read them with interest and return our thanks. They will be reviewed by the members of our Committee to whom they are assigned. Comp. S. Stacker Williams, Chairman of the Committee on Correspondence of the Grand Chapter of Ohio, makes two mistakes in spelling our name, for which we forgive him with the hope that he will not do so again.

Extending fraternal greeting to our esteemed Companions, we submit the following:

#### ALABAMA.

The Sixty-sixth Annual Convocation was held at Montgomery, December 5, 1892, James T. Beck, M. E. Grand High Priest, presiding.

The Grand High Priest delivered an address in which he congratulated the Grand Chapter on the flourishing condition of Royal Arch Masonry (which he calls "Chapter Masonry") in his jurisdiction. We are glad to record this fact, for a year ago he said it was not what it should be, though he thought

a revival had begun. He records the death of Past Grand High Priest and Grand Secretary Myles Jefferson Greene, which occurred June 27, 1892, and whose portrait is the frontispiece of the volume. It is a kind, intelligent face, and we do not doubt that Comp. Greene deserved the eulogium pronounced upon him. He states that his duties during the previous year were unusually light, that he granted but few dispensations and in our opinion they should have been fewer than they were. He reports four, two of which were to elect officers. If he was satisfied with the reasons for the failure to elect at the proper time we believe he could properly grant the dispensations and have no criticisms to make. Our Grand High Priest does so when satisfied of the propriety of it, but everything depends upon the reasons for the failure to elect. We have in mind a case which occurred here in Pennsylvania. A ball was to be held in one of our towns the same evening that one of our Chapters should have met in the same town and elected its officers. The officers wanted to go to the ball and did go, making no effort to convene the Chapter, and afterwards asked for a dispensation to hold a special election. When our Grand High Priest learned that a ball had been a greater attraction than the Chapter he very properly refused the dispensation and the officers held over another year.

He reports a dispensation to Chapter No. 38, to receive and ballot on petitions at the same convocation, and another to Chapter No. 23, to do the same thing. In our opinion he had no more right to grant these dispensations, which, of course, were in opposition to a regulation of his Grand Chapter, or to a By-Law of the Chapters interested, for otherwise they would not have needed them, than the Governor of Alabama would have to set aside a statutory law of that Commonwealth or the President would have to nullify an article of the Constitution or an act of Congress. By-Laws are framed for the government of Chapters and are supposed to be constructed for the best interests of those they are to govern. What is not permitted by them is prohibited, and what is prohibited it is believed would be prejudicial to the best interests of the Chapter. Having established these premises, it is easy to conclude that By-Laws should be lived up to until repealed or amended, which, if they are found to be oppressive, can easily be done under proper restrictions. We say to all Grand High Priests, keep your hands off of the By-Laws of your Chapters. "Touch

not, taste not, handle not." They are not to be trifled with, and instead of tearing them to pieces use your authority to uphold and enforce them. This is a subject upon which we feel a deep interest, and our readers must bear with us if upon every occasion we raise our voice against what we think is an unwarrantable assumption of power. This portion of his address was referred to the Committee on Dispensations, but we fail to find any report, much as we would like to have seen it.

He reports but one decision, viz., that suspension in a Lodge for non-payment of dues operates as a suspension from all the privileges of Royal Arch Masonry, and we agree with him.

Last year we told Comp. Beck we thought he should visit his Chapters instead of leaving that duty to be performed by the Grand Lecturer. He says nothing about visitations and we are afraid has not taken our advice.

The Committee on Work made a report on the W. M. degree, which report was adopted, though it is not printed. This is a new degree to us and we would like to be enlightened concerning it.

The Grand Chapter amended its Constitution in regard to its Convocations and adopted the following :

"This Grand Chapter shall hold its Annual Grand Convocation at the city of Montgomery, on Monday, immediately preceding the first Tuesday in December, and the Grand or Deputy Grand High Priest shall have the power of convening the Grand Chapter whenever it may be necessary; and shall be bound to do so whenever requested, in writing, by not less than six Chapters. Twenty days' notice of said Convocation shall be given to each chartered Chapter."

The above looks as though the Deputy Grand High Priest could convene the Grand Chapter without the knowledge or consent of the Grand High Priest, or with his knowledge and without his consent. It is the first intimation we have of a deputy being clothed with coördinate powers with his chief, and we would not accept the office of Grand High Priest of Alabama if we were obliged to share our authority with an inferior officer.

We doubt the propriety of allowing six or any number of Chapters to order the Grand High Priest to convene the Grand Chapter. This question was before our Grand Lodge

once, and on September 3, 1879, the Committee on Landmarks made the following report, which we think of sufficient importance to quote in full :

"The Committee on Landmarks respectfully report :

"At your Quarterly Communication in June your Committee on By-Laws reported, *inter alia*, in favor of striking from the proposed By-Laws of Lodge No. 246, the following provision :

"' Whenever thereunto requested in writing by ten or more Master Masons, members of the Lodge, it shall be the duty of the Worshipful Master to convene a special meeting.'

"Whereupon so much of their report as related to the power of any number of members to direct the Worshipful Master to call a special meeting was referred to your Committee on Landmarks, with instructions to report at this Communication.

"The solution of the question so referred depends upon a consideration of the powers inherent in the Worshipful Master and vested in him by virtue of his office. He is not the president or presiding officer of a modern voluntary association, subject to written rules and statutes, enacted and ordained for their government by the members over whom he is called to rule, and for a violation of which he must account to them and be obnoxious to their censure. He is much more. There is no written law which prescribes the fullness of his authority, or defines the limitations within which it is to be exercised. Within the boundaries only of ancient Constitution, usage and custom, and written laws not inconsistent therewith, must our search be made for the rights, powers, privileges and prerogatives which appertain to this high office. Grave is its responsibility, full and great is its authority.

"From a manuscript,\* whose age is now more than three centuries, we learn that it was then a part of traditional history, that when Masons were sent forth, they were given a charge in this manner: 'The first was that they should be true to their *King*, Lord or Master that they served and that they shoulde ordaine the most wise and cunning man to be Master of the King or Lord's worke that was amongst them, and neither for love, riches nor favour to sett another that had little cunninge to be Master of that worke whereby the Lord should be ill served and the *Science* ill defamed.'

"In the 'Charges of a Freemason, extracted from the Ancient Records of Lodges beyond Sea and of those in England, Scotland and Ireland, for the use of Lodges, to be read at the making of new brethren, or when the Master shall order it,' republished by order of the Grand Lodge of England in 1815, and in our *Ahiman Rezon*, approved by this Grand Lodge in 1825, it is written: 'When a fellow-Craftsman is chosen Warden of the work under the Master, he shall be true both to Master and fellows, shall carefully oversee the work in the Master's absence to the Lord's profit, and his brethren shall obey him.'

"Here is no uncertain sound as to the relationship between the Master and the members of his Lodge in the direction of its work: rule and oversight on the one part, service and obedience on the other. As the

\* Lansdowne MSS., A.D. 1560, Brit. Mus. See Hughan's *Old Masonic Charges*, p. 32.

Brethren in this jurisdiction year by year are charged, 'such is the nature of our Constitution, that as some must of necessity rule and teach, so others must of course learn to submit and obey.' Because the Worshipful Master is of 'great skill, true and trusty,' because 'he is well skilled in the noble science and royal art,' qualifications acquired by long service, 'to him is committed the superintendence and government of the brethren.' And to enable him the better fitly to perform the high duties and meet the weighty responsibilities resting upon him, he is invested with powers and prerogatives, exclusive and peculiar privileges, inalienable and indefeasible, to which immemorial tradition and usage bear witness. Among those most frequently mentioned and recognized is at his will and pleasure, without let or hindrance, or dictation from or by those he governs, to assemble his Lodge in emergency, to preside therein, *and* at his like will and pleasure to open and close his Lodge. When convened no majority of his members, however great, can require him to adjourn. He, in his lofty station, is presumed to know what work is needful to be done, when it shall be done, and see it is well done, in accordance with the landmarks, customs and usage to which he must render rigid obedience.

"As in the Constitution of our Commonwealth the right of enjoying and defending life and liberty is declared, not conferred, so in our written Masonic Constitutions, where it is said as in Anderson's *Old Regulations*, adopted in General Assembly at Stationer's Hall, on the 24th of June, 1721: 'The Master of a PARTICULAR Lodge has the right and authority of congregating the *Members* of his Lodge into a *Chapter* upon any emergency or occurrence; as well as to appoint the time and place of their usual forming;' or as in that of the Grand Lodge of England: 'A Lodge of emergency may at any time be called by the authority of a Master, or in his absence, of the Senior Warden, but on no pretence without such authority first given;' or in our own: 'He is empowered to call meetings of his own Lodge at pleasure.' It is but a declaration and witness to an existing, continuing, exclusive prerogative and not the creation of it.

"Nowhere, after diligent examination of the old Constitution, can your Committee discover that ever was committed to any number of members the right or power to determine for themselves the propriety of a convocation of their Lodge, and to require of their Worshipful Master obedience to such determination. Nowhere of old can we find the right recognized for members to place themselves in the judgment seat devoted to the use of their Worshipful Master, and to pass with authority upon the fit time or the necessity for such convening. On the contrary, as declared in the *Ahiman Rezon*, approved by the Grand Lodge of Pennsylvania, 1783, reaffirmed in 1815: 'The Master of a particular Lodge has the right and authority of calling his Lodge or congregating the members into a Chapter at pleasure, upon the application of any of the Brethren, and upon any emergency and occurrence which, in his judgment, may require their meeting.'

"One who stands in the front rank of Masonic jurists has thus written :\* 'The Master has a right to call a special meeting of his Lodge whenever he pleases, and is the sole judge of any emergency which may require such special Communication. He has also the right of closing his

\* Mackey's *Principles of Masonic Law*, pp. 122, 123.

Lodge at any hour that he may deem expedient, notwithstanding the whole business of the evening may not have been transacted. This regulation arises from the unwritten law of Masonry. As the Master is responsible to the Grand Lodge for the fidelity of the work done in his Lodge, and as the whole of the labor is therefore performed under his superintendence, it follows that to enable him to discharge this responsibility he must be invested with the power of commencing, of continuing, or of suspending labor at such time as he may, in his wisdom, deem to be most advantageous to the edifice of Masonry.'

"Again: 'The Master has the right to convene his Lodge at any time and is the judge of any emergency that may require a special meeting.'"

"Germane to these views is the action of this Grand Lodge at its Annual Communication in 1874. At a stated meeting of Lodge No. 51, it was proposed to amend Article I of their By-Laws by inserting as Section 2: 'No special meeting shall be convened, except in an emergency, unless notice thereof and the business to be transacted be given at a stated meeting.' The Worshipful Master refused to entertain the motion for the adoption of this amendment, and from this decision an appeal was taken to the Grand Lodge. The appellants conceded that the proposition was unconstitutional (taking the *Ahiman Rezon* as the Constitution), but contended that this fact did not justify its being pronounced out of order. In their report to the Grand Lodge your Committee on Appeals said: 'It is the bounden duty of the Worshipful Master to enforce the laws of the Grand Lodge; to submit to the Lodge a proposition in violation of them and run the risk of its adoption would subject the Worshipful Master to a just criticism.'

"We have searched in vain through the old Codes of By-Laws of many of our Lodges whose warrants bear date before the abounding modern societies were breathed into existence, to find trace of any power in the membership to override or control the judgment of the Worshipful Master, and to make it mandatory upon him to assemble his Lodge at their pleasure. In the early days of our history this doctrine was unknown. To engraft such a provision in our code as that under consideration and condemned by the Committee on By-Laws is an innovation. It would be to import from societies of recent birth and of utterly different constitution and government a regulation which would be a spoliation of the prerogative of the Worshipful Master, and would be in derogation of the power held and enjoyed by him under immemorial usage. It would give to the untrained and inexperienced, whose duty it is to learn and obey, authority over him who by landmarks is the 'head of the Lodge,' and, at their behest, oblige him to convene his Lodge, when in his judgment it might be most inopportune and inadvisable.

"Because the conclusion reached by your Committee is variant from not fully considered action hitherto had by this Grand Lodge, it has been deemed expedient to present these views more at large than otherwise would have seemed necessary. Your Committee have sought to stand 'in the ways and see and ask for the old paths, where is the good way, and walk therein,' and are of one mind that it would be in contravention of custom and usage to authorize any number of Master Masons to direct their Worshipful Master when to assemble his Lodge.

Respectfully submitted."

Signed by the Committee.

\* Mackey's *Masonic Jurisprudence*, p. 343.

On motion this report was accepted and unanimously adopted, as the sense of the Grand Lodge. It applies as well to the members of a Grand Lodge as to those of a Lodge, and to those of a Grand Chapter as well as to those of a Grand Lodge.

The report on correspondence is by the veteran, Comp. Palmer Job Pillans, who presents a most attractive and readable report. There is so much in it that is good that we would be glad to make many extracts were it not that this review has already attained excessive length. He reviews Pennsylvania for 1891 and speaks of us as "This venerable Grand Chapter." The word is correctly applied, Companion, for we are the oldest Grand Chapter on this continent. The letter of Comp. W. J. Hughan, our representative to England, is quoted in full, as he says, "for the information of our Companions, hoping that it may prove as interesting to them as it has done to us." He commends Grand High Priest Morgan in his remarks to Chapters who elect officers who pass through the chairs and wear the honors without ever conferring a degree, depending upon a Past High Priest to do their work for them."

He says, "Comp. Stockton Bates made a very sprightly report on correspondence; one which, if the Companions read it, will give them a most complete view of the condition of Capitular Masonry, and of the general trend of thought on various interesting subjects in the different jurisdictions."

In the Appendix are published the names of thirty-five Companions who were suspended for non-payment of dues, concerning which we will have something to say further on.

John Alex. McKinnon, Selma, M. E. Grand High Priest; Henry Clay Armstrong, Montgomery, R. E. Grand Secretary.

## ARIZONA.

The Third Annual Convocation was held in the city of Phoenix, November 16, 1892. Every Chapter in the jurisdiction (five) was represented. Comp. George W. Cheney, Grand High Priest, presided. In his address he says:

"Companions: I welcome you to our third annual gathering as a Grand Body. The year that is just closed has been peaceful and un-

eventful to the Order, and has drawn but lightly upon the time or attention of its Grand Officers. We have been greeted with a continued recognition by sister jurisdictions, and numerous requests for fraternal intercourse have shown that we were welcome to the fold. In response to these I have during the year commissioned the following Companions as Grand Representatives of the Grand Chapter of Arizona, to reside near their respective Grand Chapters."

He reports one dispensation as follows:

"But one dispensation has been issued, and that upon October 20, to 'Tucson' Chapter, No. 3, authorizing it to ballot upon the petition of three candidates without reference to the usual committee. The circumstances of time and distance, as well as mutual convenience of Chapters and candidates, seemed to warrant this course."

Though not acquainted with all the circumstances, perhaps, we are disposed to doubt the wisdom of the above. He closes as follows:

"In completing the record of the official year I regret that I cannot report a larger increase in membership and greater activity in the work of the subordinate Chapters. But the brevity of the record is unfortunately an evidence of what we lack. Conditions of life, and of individual and community prosperity, we admit and recognize as a most potent cause. And yet that the growth of the fraternal Orders and interest in the proceedings should be almost an index for material success in business life; that membership in the Lodge should be considered as one of the luxuries of life, one of the first to be curtailed in deference to financial pressure, is certainly not in accord with our purpose and intent. As brethren of a family are brought more closely together by the misfortunes of either, so should brethren of the Lodge learn not so much to lean upon as to support each other in any stress. While both present and future are rosy to us as individuals, the Lodge-room and fraternal intercourse become an addition to our social pleasures; in darker times their truer purposes should appear.

"I surrender to you the charge you have placed in my hands, with the most earnest wishes for the continued welfare of our beloved Order."

Comp. George James Roskruge was elected and installed Grand High Priest, and delivered the following inaugural:

"At the formation of the Grand Chapter of Arizona, being then elected to the office of Grand Secretary, I expressed my willingness to work in the quarries without the hope of fee or reward. That I have wrought diligently and am entitled to wages is shown by your electing me to the highest office within your gift. In my Masonic life of over twenty-two years I have used my earnest endeavors to faithfully fill any office to

which I was elected or appointed. In my youth I was taught that whatever I undertook was to be done well. That training has been the means of placing me where I am to-day, viz., at the top round of the Masonic ladder. In my Masonic work, no matter how arduous, I have never faltered in endeavoring to work for the credit of our beloved Order. Often I have been asked the question, 'What pay do you get; how much is there in it?' Pay? Why the best pay possible—the esteem and respect of my Companions and the satisfaction of believing that when I am called to the Supreme Grand Chapter that I *may be missed*.

"The honor which, in your generous impulses, you have conferred on me was unexpected, and for that reason the more appreciated, and as your Grand High Priest I will use my utmost endeavor to bring up for inspection such work as you will be authorized to receive."

The success or failure of most enterprises largely depends upon their initial steps, and it is easier to throttle error in its inception than it is to correct it after it has attained strength by continued practice.

Arizona is a young Grand Chapter, and it is important that it start right. Perhaps it will allow the oldest Grand Chapter on the western hemisphere to whisper in its ear a word of advice. If it will, here it is: Do not publish the names of Companions suspended for non-payment of dues. It is an injustice to them and cannot benefit you. We have written at length on this subject in our review of Canada.

The first report on correspondence appears this year and is written by Comp. H. B. Lighthizer. In his introduction he says:

"Companions: It was with many misgivings as to our ability to satisfactorily perform the duties imposed upon us that we for the first time entered the field of Masonic literature, and as the representative of next to the youngest Masonic Grand Body on the American Continent couched our lance in the fraternal strife as to 'who shall best work and best agree,' so incessantly waged between the abler and more experienced members of the reportorial corps representing the older Grand Jurisdictions."

We will do him the justice to say that he presents a report worth reading, and which will compare favorably with many written by older writers. He is not afraid to comment when he thinks the occasion requires it, and generally does so with intelligence. He takes pleasure in his work, which is the first element of success. Our only criticism is on the following.

In reviewing Maine, for 1891, he says, concerning Comp. Drummond's report:

"We, however, appreciate the little bit of sarcasm in which he indulges at the expense of Pennsylvania's Committee on Correspondence. 'Hit 'em again,' Companion, and perhaps they will 'come in out of the wet.' The antipathy of that jurisdiction to the General Grand Chapter is manifested by persistently ignoring its youngest born—Arizona has not, since its organization, been favored with a copy of the Pennsylvania proceedings."

His modesty is not so apparent in the above as it is in his introduction. Whether or not we are in the "wet" is a matter of opinion, and we advise him to read *our* introduction. If Comp. L. lives long enough, and he need not prolong his existence a great while either, he will find that wherever we are we ~~can~~ take care of ourselves. We would like to know what right he has to assert that we have an antipathy to the General Grand Chapter. Furthermore, we wonder if he thinks the old Grand Chapter of Pennsylvania cares a button whether the four-year-old of Arizona belongs to the General Grand Chapter or not, or whether the fact that they do would induce us to withhold our proceedings from them. They are mailed to Arizona and if not received there we cannot help it. We hope they will receive this one. He speaks in a kinder vein in his conclusion, from which we quote:

"Our labor of love is done. If our work is found to be incomplete, it is because the materials furnished did not hold out. That the proceedings of the Grand Chapters of Iowa, Kansas, Louisiana, Pennsylvania, Virginia and Wisconsin do not appear in our report, while our misfortune and loss, is not our fault. Neither one of those Grand Bodies appears to have furnished our Grand Secretary with a single copy of its proceedings since our Grand Chapter's organization. Possibly the glad tidings have not yet reached them that to the sisterhood of Grand Chapters 'a child was born' on November 13, 1889, in the very heart of the mythical Great American Desert—and her name is Arizona. Especially do we regret the absence from our table of the proceedings of Wisconsin, the State wherein we first saw the 'Light' whereby Masons work."

George J. Roskruge, of Tucson, was elected Grand High Priest; John M. Ormsby, of the same city, is Grand Secretary.

## CALIFORNIA.

A very handsome pamphlet comes to us from the Golden Gate containing the proceedings of the Grand Chapter of California at its Thirty-ninth Annual Convocation, held at San Francisco, April, 18, 1893. Grand High Priest William Buckley Davis presided. In his address he says:

"No questions of Masonic law have been referred to me for adjudication. The Constitution and Regulations are so plain that it is hardly possible for any Royal Arch Mason to go astray. The consequence is, the Committee on Grievances have no arduous duties to perform. So may it continue for all time to come."

Owing to severe winter storms, a number of Chapters were unable to hold their annual meetings, and he issued four dispensations to as many Chapters to hold special elections. He also issued a dispensation to Chapter No. 1, permitting the use of two substitutes in the ceremony of exaltation. We suggest that our Pacific coast friends repeal their General Regulation, No. 12, which we think they can do without violating any landmark of Royal Arch Masonry, and then such dispensations will not be needed and the Chapters will suffer less inconvenience. He made twenty-three visitations, and says:

"All the Chapters are in a prosperous condition. In the several visitations work was done or exemplified in a very creditable manner. It was most gratifying to behold the commodious halls occupied by the Chapters and the intelligent faces who assemble there. The business-like manner in which the records and the book of marks are kept was particularly gratifying to witness. . . . . Peace and harmony reigned supreme in the breasts of all. These events have made such an impression on me that I shall in the future look back with pride and satisfaction to the year I presided over the Royal Craft of California, and esteem it the most pleasant one of my life; and nothing but death can ever obliterate it from my memory."

He announces the death of Past Grand High Priest Isaac S. Titus, which occurred April 22, 1892. The financial condition is first-class, cash being on hand to the amount of \$6945.02 and 1800 shares of Masonic Hall and Temple stock, the estimated value of which is \$34,400.

Owing to the illness of Comp. Gillett, Chairman of the Com-

mittee on Correspondence, the report was written by Past Grand High Priest William Abraham Davies. We do not know how well Comp. Gillett might have written, but are entirely satisfied with the report of Comp. Davies. Pennsylvania for 1891 receives his attention. He says:

"The State is divided into eight districts, each district being under the supervision of a District Deputy Grand High Priest."

A slip of the pen, Companion. You meant to write "twenty-two" instead of "eight." He quotes liberally from Comp. Bates, and of his introduction says:

"His report is so eloquently prefaced that we borrow from it to illustrate (for the benefit of Companions in California) what manner of men these Pennsylvania Quakers are."

He dissents entirely from the opinion of Comps. John M. Pearson, of Illinois; William R. Singleton, of the District of Columbia, and our Stockton Bates, that a blind man can be made a Royal Arch Mason, and says:

"It does seem to us that in any degree in the system of Masonry a Mason should be able to conform literally to what the several degrees require of him. Anything less is pretense, and leads to construction of law without precedent or authority, and is dangerous to the entire system."

We are obliged to say that we agree with Comp. Davies that "a Mason should be able to conform literally," etc., and we do not think a blind man could do that.

Comp. Charles Ray Gritman, of Napa, was elected Grand High Priest; Comp. Thomas Hubbard Caswell, of San Francisco, Grand Secretary.

## CANADA.

The Thirty-sixth Annual Convocation was held in Ottawa, Friday, July 21, 1893.

Comp. J. E. Harding, Grand Zerubbabel, on the throne.

The Grand Z. in his address refers to the dead of his own and other jurisdictions in feeling terms.

One of his decisions was as follows :

"The first question submitted to me was that of a Companion belonging to two Chapters, one having suspended him for non-payment of dues, and the other having elected him to an office. I held that the election was illegal, that his dues must be paid to the Chapter which had suspended him, and a new election be held for the office to which he had been elected."

St. Luke says, "No servant can serve two masters: for either he will hate the one, and love the other; or else he will hold to the one and despise the other." The application of this is that one cannot be a member of two Chapters and do justice to both. We do not allow it in Pennsylvania.

He reports a number of visitations and seems to have discharged his entire duty in that respect. Several Chapters he visited more than once.

Of the condition of Capitular Masonry he says :

"I have read the reports of the Grand Superintendents of Districts, and think that during the last year a distinct advance has been made in placing the Chapters that were weak and dormant in a better position. During the coming year the Chapters will have the advantage of a more simple and shorter ritual, and it might be worthy the consideration of this Grand Chapter as to whether Lodges of M. M. M. and M. E. M. should not be established at places other than where the Chapter is situate, for the purpose of conferring subordinate degrees and holding Quarterly Convocations of the Chapter to confer the Royal Arch. I believe that, if this plan were adopted, many of the weaker Chapters would be content with the Lodges of the subordinate degrees and be quite willing to come up for the Royal Arch at those quarterly or semi-annual Convocations of the mother Chapter; of course all balloting to be done in the Chapter.

"I am, like my predecessor in office, quite satisfied that it would be better for a number of the weak Chapters to amalgamate with the stronger ones in the jurisdiction; however, that is a matter of some difficulty, and must be left in the hands of the Companions interested.

#### "FINANCES.

"Our financial position is a most healthy one:

The receipts for the year were . . . . .	\$2,728 34
The disbursements were . . . . .	2,152 54
	_____
The credit balance for the year is . . . . .	\$575 80
We have now debentures amounting to . . . .	17,000 00
And our balance in Bank of Commerce is . . . .	3,004 10
	_____
Total . . . . .	\$20,004 10

"And I submit to my Companions that the time has now arrived for them to commence laying up an Endowment Fund for carrying on a home for the aged and distressed Companions of the Royal Craft. So far we have, by the blessing of Divine Providence, been free from any great number of Companions who would require the care and attention that would be given to them by an institution carried on and controlled by the Craft, but as the country gets older, so will the number of homeless and destitute Companions increase."

The above shows the Grand Chapter to be in affluent circumstances, the increase for the fiscal year being \$590.20.

Twenty-six pages are filled with the reports of the District Superintendents, which are printed in full. The sub-Committee on Condition of Capitular Masonry gave their opinion of them in a report from which we make the following extract:

"From a careful perusal of the reports of the officers superintending the fourteen districts embraced within the jurisdiction of this Grand Chapter during the past year, your Committee is not profoundly impressed with the devotion or concern which, taken as a whole, characterized the labors of these Companions. The reports tell their own story, and truth compels the admission that it is a cheerless relation. Contrasted with the zeal put into their duties by the District Deputy Grand Masters of the Grand Lodge, the work of the Grand Superintendents, with one or two notable exceptions, is certainly open to criticism. If in some cases their territory is larger, the number of visitations required is comparatively small. It is difficult to understand why a Chapter should be deprived of official inspection simply because a negligent Scribe E. fails to recognize the Superintendent when sending out his notices, and too often the inspecting officer accepts the written assurance of a Chapter officer that a convocation is impracticable when, if he announced his coming and demanded a meeting, the chances are the results would be satisfactory from every point. The Companion who accepts the office of Grand Superintendent knows full well that he is clothing himself with a responsibility which is in no respect less serious than that of D. D. G. M., and yet the latter rarely advances business cares or spells of illness as excuses for omissions of duty. The condition of the Royal Craft is not such, judging by the reports examined, as to justify the overseers in passing work which has not the mark of zeal and enthusiasm visible upon it, but while defects are apparent in some portions, there is yet discernible a singular form, and even beauty, in others which inspires a feeling of hesitancy ere consigning it to the rubbish.

"In some districts it would seem that 'the first hour of the first day of the week' had not yet chimed; work in the quarries has not been resumed, and where activity and bustle should proclaim the presence of the zealous Craftsman, dust and neglect mark the location of a work well begun, imperfectly carried on and finally abandoned. Of other sections it may be said that if the enthusiasm is not remarkable yet there is no such falling away of interest and duty as to awaken anxious

solicitude. The Chapters seem to be fairly sustained, and are holding their own in numbers and resources. While in a few, and it is a regrettable fact that they are few, there is a constantly replenished fire which maintains a cheerful, healthy glow of encouragement and hope. That there ought to be more interest felt and a higher line of advancement reached, must be evident to all who study the situation. If we desire Capitular Masonry to become a greater power than it now is those who are entrusted with its custody must be more attentive to its needs and more devoted to its interests.

"While your Committee deplores the paucity of general information in the majority of the reports furnished, it is a matter for satisfaction that there are a few which redeem the whole from too harsh comment."

The Committee on Warrants recommended that warrants be granted to two new Chapters in Canada, and three in the colony of Victoria, which recommendation was adopted.

The Committee to whom had been referred the question of recognizing the Grand Chapter of Victoria made the following report, which was adopted :

"The Committee on Foreign Correspondence, to whom was referred the matter of the recognition of the Grand Chapter of Victoria, beg leave to report thereon as follows :

"Last year this Grand Chapter decided to defer action in this matter in the absence of information from our Canadian Chapters in the Colony of Victoria as to what their position would be with reference to the new body.

"On the 27th day of January last (1893), a meeting of all the Past and Present Principals of the Canadian Chapters in Victoria was held in the Chapter Room, in the City of Melbourne. At this meeting a number of important resolutions were adopted, from which it appears that the new Grand Chapter will not recognize or receive the Canadian Chapters, and our members ask that we should uphold them in maintaining their rights.

"There has also been a serious question raised as to the regularity of the formation of the new body, and under these circumstances your Committee recommend that no recognition be accorded, at this time, to the Grand Chapter of Victoria.

"All of which is respectfully submitted.

Hy. ROBERTSON, *Chairman.*"

The Grand Chapter donated \$390 in amounts ranging from \$10 to \$50 for the relief of Companions, their widows, orphans and mothers.

On p. 63 are printed the names of ninety-nine Companions who have been suspended for non-payment of dues. Companions of Canada, let us say to you kindly—as brother

speaks to brother, as one admonishes another whom he loves of what he believes to be an error—that we do not think such a list should be published, where all who choose have a right to read. We know that many allow themselves to be suspended through carelessness and for such we have no sympathy. We also know that many are suspended because they have not the money with which to pay their dues, who if they gave their money to the Chapter their families would suffer for the necessities of life. These men are sensitive, they will not come into the Chapter and plead poverty, and no doubt feel keenly the disgrace of being suspended. If you cannot remit their dues suspend them, but do not further humiliate them by publishing their names to the world. We cannot think of any object to be gained by publishing such a list unless it be to shame the delinquents into payment, and we do not think it would have that effect. As a means of determining the standing of any Companion it would not be reliable and such information can be obtained with accuracy from the Grand Secretary. We do not know of any good purpose it can serve, and can think of much harm it might do.

Comp. Henry Robertson presents his twenty-sixth annual report on correspondence, and like all of his that we have seen it contains much that is interesting. We agree with nearly all he says but cannot subscribe to his opinion that membership in a Chapter should not be dependent on membership in a Lodge. The Lodge is the foundation and contains all there is of Masonry except the Royal Arch degree, but the latter would be worthless without the Lodge. Destroy your foundation and your whole superstructure falls. We are as loyal to the Chapter as any man, but if we can have but one we will let everything else go and keep the Lodge. If it is worth having it is worth keeping and we cannot advocate the doctrine that it can be dispensed with.

Pennsylvania is reviewed without special comment.

In reviewing Delaware he makes a liberal extract from what he terms, the "eloquent address of Comp. Edgar A. Tannis, the Grand High Priest of Pennsylvania."

Comp. John E. Harding, of Stratford, was reëlected Grand Zerubbabel; Comp. Thomas Sargent, of Toronto, Grand Scribe E.

## COLORADO.

The Nineteenth Annual Convocation was held in Denver, September 21, 1893, Thomas Nicholl, Grand High Priest, presiding. Every Chapter in the jurisdiction (twenty-seven in all) was represented.

The Grand High Priest of the previous year (Comp. Roller) in his address to the Grand Chapter, September 22, 1892, said :

“ I am pleased to be able to report that our circle of Grand Officers remains unbroken, and our Eminent Grand Secretary informs me that death has not once entered the circle of Grand Officers of this Grand Chapter of Colorado since its organization.”

Grand High Priest Nicholl supplements this by saying :

“ It affords me great pleasure to report that our circle of Grand Officers still remains unbroken.”

This is certainly remarkable and well worth recording.

He refused to grant a dispensation permitting a Chapter to receive and ballot on a petition for the degrees at the same meeting, and we think he was right in doing so.

The report on correspondence is again written by Comp. E. L. N. Foster and includes Pennsylvania for 1892. Among other things he says :

“ In the body of the proceedings we find a fine engraving of Past Grand High Priest George W. Kendrick, Jr., who wielded the gavel in 1885-86.”

If he had said sceptre instead of “ gavel ” he would have been nearer right. Comp. Kendrick never touched a gavel while he was Grand High Priest. Concerning this gavel which comes to the surface occasionally we will have more to say further on.

He quotes in full our remarks concerning physical qualifications, in which we tried to help him off the fence on which he acknowledged himself to be perched. He does not say whether or not our arguments are convincing, and leaves us to presume that he is still astride the fence.

He comments as follows on our remarks about the in-

dividuality of marks and the circumstances under which they are changed :

"Now, so far as the operative use of the mark in the days of King Solomon, we have no difference of opinion, but we were taught and our O. B. so stated that a mark once selected and recorded in the Lodge Book of Marks could not be changed, and therefore we cannot reconcile our O. B. with the Pennsylvania system of changing it."

The only comment we can make on the above is that the O. B. used in Pennsylvania differs from that prevailing in Colorado.

He agrees with Comp. J. Simpson Africa that the representative system has outlived its usefulness and that public installations are a violation of Masonic obligations and of an ancient landmark, though he says the probability is that a very large majority of his jurisdiction is against him.

A long list of Companions suspended, presumably for non-payment of dues, is published. For our views on the propriety of publishing such a list we refer the reader to our review of Canada.

Henry T. West, of Greeley, Grand High Priest; Ed. C. Parmelee, of Denver, Grand Secretary.

## CONNECTICUT.

The Ninety-fifth Annual Convocation was held at Masonic Hall, 87 Church street, in the city of New Haven, on Tuesday, May 9, 1893, Comp. Henry H. Green, Grand High Priest, presiding, whose steel engraved portrait forms the frontispiece of the volume. There was a very full attendance of officers and members. The Grand High Priest delivered a brief address, in which he announced the deaths of Past Grand High Priest Chester Tilden and Past Grand Scribe Stephen T. Bartlett, and pays an appropriate tribute to the memory of each.

He reports the issuing of dispensations as follows :

"To Cyrus Chapter, No. 45, and Meridian Chapter, No. 15, to elect officers to fill vacancies caused by those elected at the Annual Convocation declining to serve.

"To Meridian Chapter, No. 15, to hold their stated Convocation on the evening of November 15 instead of November 8, as provided in their By-Laws. The rule for notification to be strictly complied with.

"To Freestone Chapter, No. 34, and Palmer Chapter, No. 28, to ballot upon the application of a candidate without the usual delay, due notice to be given every member of the Chapter of their proposed action."

Those in the first paragraph, relating to the elections, were clearly within his province. We do not think the others were. That in regard to the Convocation he says set aside a By-Law of the Chapter. Those in regard to the ballots, of course, did likewise, else dispensations would not have been needed. We have always believed and said, and we believe and say now, that the By-Laws of a Chapter are sacred and inviolable and must be literally obeyed until repealed or amended by vote of the Chapter and approved by the Grand Chapter, and that no Grand High Priest on earth has the power to issue a dispensation in contravention of a By-Law. By-Laws that can be set aside for the asking are not worth the paper on which they are written.

In his conclusion he says :

"In a short time I shall surrender to you the gavel which one year ago you entrusted to me," etc.

We have noticed this reference to a gavel in the proceedings of several jurisdictions, and have mentioned it in a former report. We wonder whether their Grand High Priests really use a gavel or whether it is merely a figure of speech. Our Chapters have no use for one and it is not found among their utensils, our High Priests using a sceptre. While we do not attach much importance to the matter, it strikes us that the use of a gavel in a Chapter is inappropriate. It is a workman's implement, and in the hand of the Master of a Lodge, the members of which are workmen engaged in building the Temple, it finds a fitting place. The sceptre is a symbol of royalty, and it is appropriate that the High Priest who outranks royalty itself should use the sceptre and nothing else. Whether we are right or wrong, the above is the way it looks to us.

There are thirty-eight Chapters in Connecticut, and they are divided into four districts, which are assigned respectively to the Grand High Priest, Deputy Grand High Priest, Grand King, and Grand Scribe, to be officially visited by them, and at the Annual Convocation held in May, 1892, the Grand High Priest said :

"It is the desire of the Most Excellent Grand High Priest that the Grand Officers make extra efforts to visit each and every Chapter assigned them before the next annual Convocation of the Grand Chapter."

At the next annual Convocation (the one under review) the Grand High Priest reported that:

"Owing to circumstances over which I had no control, I have been deprived of the pleasure of visiting the subordinate Chapters to the extent that I desired. The few visits I have made were of the most pleasant character, notably that of my visit to Franklin Chapter, No. 4, of Norwich. On all occasions I have been received with the honors and courtesies due your Grand High Priest."

The Deputy Grand High Priest made no report that we can discover. The Grand King made one, from which we make such extracts as serve our purpose, the italics being ours. He says:

"On the evening of April 11, 1893, by *invitation* of the High Priest, I visited Mt. Vernon Chapter, No. 35, Ansonia.

\* \* \* \* \*

"Two other Chapters sent me *invitations*. One I was obliged to decline owing to a previous personal engagement; the other I was prevented from keeping in one instance by sickness in my family and in the second instance with the same Chapter a death in the family of the High Priest occasioned a further postponement.

"I regret that the other Chapters assigned to me did not send in their *invitations*, as I should like to have made a more extended report of labors performed."

The above sounds very queer to us. Nine Chapters were assigned to this officer and he visited but one. The Grand High Priest placed certain Chapters in his charge with the request that he visit them and attend to their wants. He did not consider the request of his superior officer, which is equivalent to a command, as of any account until endorsed by the invitation of the constituent body. Although these Chapters were under his care he really knew nothing about them. They may have played all kinds of tricks, but he did not know it because they did not invite him to come and see what they were doing. Perhaps they did not want him to see.

We do it differently in Pennsylvania. We were for several

years a District Deputy Grand High Priest, and had ten Chapters under our charge. We visited each of them once annually, and oftener if they needed it. We went when it suited us to go, without waiting for an invitation or even notifying the Chapter we were going, and in some instances we went when we think they would have preferred that we had not gone. When our Grand High Priest assigns certain Chapters to his Deputies and instructs them to visit them they do so without waiting for invitations.

The Grand Scribe also made a report. He received more invitations than the Grand King, consequently he did more visiting—that is, a little more. Out of nine Chapters assigned to him he visited three.

Of one of his visitations he says :

“They have received several applications and exalted three teams since the above visit.”

In our reading we sometimes see the word “team” applied to three or more brethren who receive the Royal Arch degree. To us of Pennsylvania the term is distasteful and we do not use it. When we hear of teams we think of yokes of oxen, or two or more horses toiling under heavy burdens and impelled by a driver’s lash. We think it singularly inappropriate that God’s last and greatest work, man, endowed with reason and an immortal soul, should be likened to the dumb brutes which were created to be his submissive servants. If the candidates are a team, the P.S. must be a teamster, and we think should be so designated.

This is another instance where Freemasonry, the mother of all similar though inferior societies, has suffered by allowing their peculiar expressions to creep into and deform her vocabulary. What is more forcible and appropriate than the statement that three, six, or nine Brethren were exalted? Away with “teams.” Banish it to where it belongs, wherever that may be, and let us have no more of it in Freemasonry.

In the volume is printed a list of Chapters, stating who are the officers of each, with the names of those exalted, admitted, resigned, died, expelled, or stricken from the roll for non-payment of dues. We do not think the last should be published, and in a former part of this report have given our reasons at length for such belief.

Our readers may think that because we have been somewhat critical in our review of Connecticut that we find nothing there to commend. Such is not the case. The annual meeting was largely attended, thirty-six out of thirty-eight Chapters being represented, a record that few can equal, and showing that the interest taken by our Companions in their Grand Chapter is general. The financial condition is good, the receipts exceeding the expenditures \$326.80, and the Trustees report a fund in their hands of \$625.97. No debts are reported and we presume none exist. In connection with financial matters we notice that the Committee on Appropriations recommended that the Committee on Correspondence be paid \$100, which report was adopted. Verily it is good to be a committeeman in Connecticut. The Committee on Grievance reported that no business had come before them and congratulated the Grand Chapter that peace and harmony prevailed. The statistics show 4862 Royal Arch Masons, an average of 127 to each Chapter.

The report on correspondence is by Past Grand High Priest John H. Barlow and is a good one. He reviews forty-one jurisdictions and does it in an able and interesting manner. We would like to particularize had we the space to do so. We are sorry Pennsylvania is not there. He is sorry also, for in his conclusion he says :

"We regret to be compelled to close our report with seven jurisdictions not heard from, viz.: Alabama, Montana, New Brunswick, New York, Nebraska, North Carolina, and Pennsylvania. We have waited patiently, hoping to receive them."

He also failed to receive our proceedings a year ago. We cannot understand why this should be. They are regularly sent, and as Connecticut and Pennsylvania are not a thousand miles apart, we know of no reason why they should not be transported promptly and safely, especially as we receive proceedings from Connecticut regularly. We will hope for better things and that in his next review Comp. Barlow will have something to say about us.

Grand High Priest, Samuel Bassett; Grand Secretary, Joseph K. Wheeler.

## DELAWARE.

The Twenty-fifth Annual Convocation was held at Wilmington, January 18, 1893, Francis L. Carpenter, Grand High Priest, presiding. All of the three Chapters of the jurisdiction and one under dispensation were represented. Comps. Edgar A. Tennis, Grand High Priest, and Charles E. Meyer, Past Grand High Priest and Grand Secretary of Pennsylvania, were present.

The address of the Grand High Priest was brief. He said:

"Truly we should be grateful, for indeed we have been prosperous and united in the year just closed. The several subordinate Chapters have been busy and their work is a sufficient guarantee that all those who have been received into the mysteries of Royal Arch Masonry will in the future reflect honor upon the Craft.

"Our associations with sister jurisdictions have been pleasant, and nothing has transpired to mar the peaceful relations heretofore existing."

He further said:

"During my term of office I have not been called upon to render any decisions worthy of note. Information I have given on several occasions, but nothing that would be of interest to Capitular Masonry in this or other jurisdictions."

He granted a dispensation to ballot on a petition in less than the prescribed time, the excuse given being in his mind sufficient for his action. We do not think he should have done so, and in other parts of this report have said why we think so.

They have the old trouble, often discussed, never settled, in regard to the recording of marks. He said:

"The recommendation of Past Grand High Priest John L. Clark, at our Twenty-fourth Annual Convocation, in reference to the recording of marks and which was adopted by this Grand Chapter, I find has not been adhered to as strictly as it might be, the number recorded during the past year not exceeding ten, so far as I could ascertain. I would therefore recommend that every Mark Master be required to select a mark and have it recorded within six months after receiving the Royal Arch."

Why not recommend them to record it before they receive the Royal Arch? He also said :

"I find in many instances that petitions are received with initials only given in the signature of applicant. I would recommend that hereafter all names be given in full by Brothers making application."

We think Comp. Carpenter too mild in his language. Chapters pay little or no attention to recommendations, which amount to nothing more than saying, I think you ought to do so and so, but if you think differently you need not do it.

A good strong edict addressed individually to each Chapter does the business thoroughly. Let the Grand High Priest issue such a one, directing Chapters not to confer the Royal Arch degree until the mark has been recorded, and not to accept petitions unless signed with the full name of the applicant. If his edict is not obeyed let him take possession of the warrant until the Chapter promises obedience. He will find this plan more effectual than all the recommendations he could make in a lifetime.

Hope Chapter under dispensation was granted a warrant.

A motion was adopted recognizing the Supreme Grand Chapter of Victoria. We doubt the propriety of this, as the first requisite in the formation of Grand Chapters seems to be lacking in this instance, viz., sovereignty. There are three Chapters in the colony of Victoria chartered by the Grand Chapter of Canada. The so-called Grand Chapter of Victoria either cannot or will not receive the allegiance of these three Chapters, consequently it is not sovereign and cannot associate with those Grand Chapters which are.

The report on correspondence is by Comp. Virginius V. Harrison, and is his first. As we are young ourselves (this is our second), we regard with interest the efforts of other novices. Candor compels us to state that Comp. Harrison gives us a very readable report. We have read many by veterans that did not interest us as much. We wonder how long we must serve before we can discard the term novices and stand forth as veterans.

Pennsylvania for 1891 is reviewed. Grand High Priest Morgan's address is quoted from without comment. Of the report of our Committee on Work and Jurisprudence on Honorary Membership he says :

"We fail to appreciate the honor of membership only, without being accorded the privileges of same, or at least some of them."

We say to Comp. Harrison that honorary membership is only a compliment, and when it is conferred by our Chapters is intended as a reward for some signal service rendered Freemasonry by the recipient.

Of Comp. Bates' report he says:

"The report on correspondence is by Comp. Stockton Bates, and is a very readable and entertaining paper of one hundred and fifty pages. Delaware is fraternally reviewed."

This being the twenty-fifth anniversary of the Grand Chapter (its silver wedding as it were), the occasion was celebrated with music, a banquet and oratory. A fraternal address of welcome was spoken by Past Grand High Priest Jacob F. Mynich, Our Grand High Priest, Comp. Edgar A. Tennis, followed in an address which has been highly commended. Aside from being eloquent it contains many historical facts and is a valuable addition to our Masonic literature. As the Companions of our jurisdiction have had few opportunities to read it, we quote it in full:

"When the kindly invitation of your Grand Secretary to be present at this twenty-fifth anniversary of your Grand Chapter reached me, I felt inclined at once to accept the invitation, not only for the pleasure it would give me personally, but because I have the honor to be the presiding officer in the Grand Chapter of Pennsylvania, from which grand old Commonwealth in 1765 your State of Delaware first received Masonic life when Lodge No. 5 on our Pennsylvania Register was constituted at Cantwell's Bridge, in your State, and which Lodge passed under the jurisdiction of the Grand Lodge of Delaware at its constitution in 1816. Shortly after, in 1818, your Grand Chapter was organized independent of all other authority whatsoever.

"You kept pace with the advance of Freemasonry for a season, but finally under the pressure of the anti-Masonic excitement your Grand Body passed out of existence, and the fire upon the altars of a few constituent Chapters alone attested your abiding faith in the beautiful and impressive lessons of Royal Arch Masonry. Later on, in 1868, you became a constituent of the General Grand Chapter of the United States, and have from that time to the present been faithful to your obligation of fealty and allegiance to that Body, and here again do we as Pennsylvanians claim close relationship since we gave to your General Grand Chapter her first General High Priest, Thomas Smith Webb, a member of Harmony Chapter, No. 52, in the city of Philadelphia. It is a matter of which we are justly proud that to Pennsylvania Delaware is

indebted for its Masonic life and its Royal Arch life, and that, although not a member of your General Grand Chapter, it furnished the inspiration that prompted Thomas Smith Webb in compilation of the rituals of Royal Arch Masonry now used by that Grand Body.

"We rejoice with you to-day and show by our presence our love for you and our regard for this ancient institution, in which we have a common interest. We recall the many influences at work in society tending to division. Men and women seem divided as the rocks. Caste is everywhere separating societies into sections, which have little in common save their common prejudices and their mutual distrust. The same tendencies that result in the division of society seem also to divide the Church. Christian charity fails to spread the cement of love and affection. These evils are not modern, but have existed since that little company met in the Garden of Eden. To remedy these conditions societies and organizations of various kinds have in every age been formed. They existed among our Anglo-Saxon forefathers. They flourished in Rome before the Cæsars, and on down through the ages to our present day. They have greatly helped to bring men into harmonious relations, and to unite their membership by a new, a peculiar and an important tie, but towering above them all in antiquity, in influence and in adaptation to this work is the Society, Ancient and Honorable, of Free and Accepted Masons. Its vitality is remarkable. It has withstood persecution and outlived all forms of popular prejudice; it has built halls, hospitals and schools. It has expended millions in unostentatious charities; it has provided care and comfort and protection for the widow and the orphan.

"It deals not with politics, color, race or creed, but aims to teach morality and the brotherhood of man, universal friendship, honesty and contentment. Freemasonry is not a religious institution, but it teaches the existence of a Supreme Being, the Father and Judge of us all. It asserts that He is not infinitely away from us, but that He is so near that He can both see and hear His children. So essential is this belief that without it no man can be a Mason.

"To make a good citizen, Masonry teaches obedience to the law and love for the State. To make good heads of families it teaches the sacredness of the family relations. To make good neighbors it teaches that it is not the man who is the nearest but the man who is most needy that is our neighbor. These are a few of the principles and teachings of our Order which Masons neither publicly proclaim, nor attempt to disguise, but are willing that the same should be generally known throughout the world. The method and manner of implanting these truths in the human breasts are secrets known only to the brethren of the Craft. The sisters are excluded. It is not because they have not the heart to appreciate nor the mind to understand our mysteries, but because, in the very organization of Masonry, men alone can perform its duties.

"Knowing our teachings and object, can any thinking woman object to her husband or son spending an evening a week in a Chapter consecrated to such ennobling work? I congratulate my Companions of Delaware upon the presence of so many ladies who show by their presence a willingness to omit the usual midnight Curtain Lecture.

"Observation and experience satisfy beyond cavil or question that Masonry makes men better, that it extends its broad arm and gathers

into its embrace those whom no Church influence can bring into its fold. It is the handmaid of the Church, and the Churchman that anathematizes and denounces Masonry must be forgiven by every Mason, for their opposition is grounded in ignorance and suspicion and they know not what they do. Our organization is founded upon a rock. It will exist to the end of time; it is conservative; its membership is increased without solicitation. It is maintained because it is found to be worthy and its influence for good is felt throughout the civilized world. It asks no duty that will conflict with one that is due to God, our country, our neighbor or ourselves. With the Almighty as its Creator, universal brotherhood as its life work, and heaven its hope, it will exist for ages. Monarchies may fall, nations be obliterated, republics may dissolve and their people be enslaved, but Masonry, founded upon truth, will live forever, 'For the eternal years of God are hers.'"

The toast, "The General Grand Chapter of the United States," was responded to by Past Grand High Priest John L. Clark, of Delaware.

"Our Sister Jurisdictions," by W. Nash Young, M. E. Grand High Priest of Maryland.

"The Grand Chapter of Delaware," by Past Grand High Priest Jacob F. Mynich, of Delaware.

"The Ladies," by Past Grand Secretary, William Marshall, after which brief addresses were made by Grand High Priest Edward Mills, of New Jersey; Harrison Dingman, Grand High Priest of the District of Columbia; Charles E. Meyer, Past Grand High Priest of Pennsylvania, and Geo. E. Corson, Past Grand High Priest of the District of Columbia.

All were interesting and able and we know we missed a treat by not being there. Delaware deserves all the space we have given her. We could not have done her justice had we said less.

George W. Andrews, Wilmington, Grand High Priest; James H. Price, Wilmington, Grand Secretary.

## ENGLAND.

The Supreme Grand Chapter of Royal Arch Masons of England held a Quarterly Communication at the Freemasons' Hall, London, on November 2, 1892. Comp. Rev. Henry Adair Pickard, M. A. Grand Superintendent for Oxfordshire as Grand Z. The Committee of General Purposes reported, recommending that charters be granted to Umzimkala, East

Grigualand, Natal, South Africa, and to Wellington Maetras also permission to remove the place of meeting of several Chapters, all of which was approved by Grand Chapter.

Victoria Chapter, No. 440, Montreal, Canada, having ceased working was erased from the list of Chapters.

A Quarterly Convocation was held on February 1, 1893, at which Comp. William Wither Bramston Beach, M.P., Grand Superintendent of Hampshire and the Isle of Wight acted as Grand Z. Lord Alfred Spencer Churchill, appointed Grand Scribe N., in May last, was present and installed into office and took his seat as Grand Scribe N., the same official rank as our Grand Treasurer. Charters were granted for new Chapters at Woodstock, South Africa (two); Monte Video, Uruguay, South America; London (four); Pontefract; Taiping Perth, Malay Peninsula; Chingford, Oldham. Dormatic Chapter, No. 177, London, was granted permission to wear the Royal Arch centenary jewel.

Application was made by Chapter No. 604, of New Zealand, which had seceded from the Grand Chapter of England, for permission to retain its warrant. As the Grand Chapter of New Zealand was not recognized by the Grand Lodge of England, neither was the Grand Chapter of New Zealand recognized by the Grand Chapter of England, it was therefore resolved that they be not allowed to retain their charter.

An increase of the number of officers in Grand and Provincial Grand Chapters was also adopted. An alteration of the ritual was suggested that would permit all Royal Arch Masons to be present at the opening ceremonies of a Chapter. At present only those who have been installed as one of the first three officers of a Chapter can be present at the opening. One of the Companions in Grand Chapter said: "If they were going to alter the ritual of the Royal Arch they would soon alter it off the face of the earth. It would not bear it. The meaning and the object was that after the opening by installed Principals they might be properly clothed and in a dignified position and in their seats, when the other Companions were admitted to the Chapter to salute them." The present ritual was adopted, we believe, in 1834 and subsequently amended we think by prohibiting the use of the veils. In fact if a Chapter should use the veils, it would lose its charter.

Albert Edward, Prince of Wales, Grand Z.; Edward Letch-

worth, Freemasons' Hall, Great Queen street, London, Grand Scribe E.

## GRAND MARK LODGE OF ENGLAND AND WALES.

A Quarterly Communication was held in Mark Masons' Hall, London, on September 6, 1892, which was presided over by the Marquis of Hertford, Pro. Grand Master. It seems as if we were among old friends when we read over the names of some who were present and whom we had met personally. The Earl of Euston, Dep. Grand Master; Rev. J. Studholme Brownrigg, Pro. Grand Master for Buckinghamshire; John S. Cumberland, P. G. Overseer; C. F. Matier, Grand Secretary; George Lambert, P. G. Deacon; C. F. Hogard, P. G. Standard Bearer.

The business of Grand Mark Lodge is prepared and considered in advance by a General Board elected by Grand Lodge and appointed by Grand Master. This General Board reports in detail to Grand Lodge at the Quarterly Communication and then Grand Lodge acts upon the recommendations of the Committee, mostly favorably but sometimes the contrary. There appears to be a difficulty in one of the Articles of the Constitution requiring the Grand Master to appoint the Pro. Grand Master from among the Peers of the Realm; the difficulty being to get such an one who was willing and able and capable of serving. The Grand Master, the Prince of Wales, suggested the insertion of the words "if possible" before a "Peer of the Realm." The General Board reported in favor of the amendment, which was adopted by the Grand Lodge.

One of the members of Grand Lodge designed a new tracing board which he had painted in a handsome manner and presented to Grand Mark Lodge. A resolution was offered to accept it and also to make it "the official tracing board of the Mark degree." The discussion on the resolution was most earnest; the question was raised on what authority and how the design of this tracing board was made and why it was substituted for the old one. Bro. Cumberland asked, "Was it right for a new Brother to step in and alter the old tracing board which was in use in private Lodges? If this sort of thing was allowed

to go on from time to time a Brother of ability might come in and design another tracing board for them and they would never know where they were." Another Brother said he "had heard the old tracing board explained, but there might be no one to explain the new one. Had the old one become defunct, if so, why? It had answered the purpose of Mark Masonry, and Mark Masonry had flourished and continued to flourish with it. Let them keep up to their old standpoint and stick to their old landmarks and not take up new ones." In defense of the new tracing board it was said, "there were exactly the same signs on the new tracing board as there were on the old one. The old design had merely been elaborated and, if he might say so, made more beautiful. No new signs had been added. All the lecture which applied to the old tracing board would apply to the new one," and that "the painting was done with the full sanction and approbation of the General Board."

The resolution was finally adopted, with thanks to the donor.

The Board of General Purposes also grants warrants for Mark Lodges and submits grants of money for charity.

The Province of Middlesex and Surrey (embracing the city of London) was divided and two separate provinces were made from it.

A Quarterly Communication was held in Mark Masons' Hall, London, on December 6, 1892, at which the Hon. Marquis of Hertford, Pro. Grand Master, presided. Before closing Grand Lodge he called attention to a slight difference in the opening and closing ceremonies of the Grand Lodge, so as to assimilate, as far as possible, these proceedings to the proceedings of the United Grand Lodge. The principal business transacted was action on the report of the General Board, the granting of charity and awarding the silver medal for proficiency in studies and general excellence to a girl and boy who are being educated from the Fund of Benevolence.

A Quarterly Communication was held in London, February 28, 1893, at which the Earl of Euston, Deputy Grand Master, presided. At this meeting the Prince of Wales was

elected Grand Master and Bro. Frederick Mead elected Grand Treasurer. The General Board presented to Grand Lodge a full-length painting of His Royal Highness, the Grand Master.

A Quarterly Communication was held in London, June 6, 1893, at which the Marquis of Hertford, Pro. Grand Master, presided.

The General Board reported the granting of a number of warrants for new Lodges and Ark Mariners Lodges which are under the control of the Grand Mark Lodges. To show the advance made by Mark Masonry under Grand Lodge we note the following: During the year there were 19 warrants granted for new Mark Lodges; 1526 certificates issued, making a total of 31,000. There were 5 warrants granted to new Ark Mariners Lodges; 289 certificates issued, a total of 3868 certificates. The Festival held July 20, 1892, netted \$8180 to the Fund of Benevolence. \$1550 was granted in charity and seven boys and two girls were elected to the Educational Fund for education. In twenty-four years there was received from Mark Benevolent Fund Festivals the sum of \$112,105—a magnificent showing.

While the English regulations permit a Brother to be a member of as many Lodges as he pleases to contribute to, yet it does not permit a Mason to be Master of more than one Lodge at the same time without a dispensation from the Grand Master. A Brother was so elected and the dispensation had not been applied for, so the installation was declared null and void and the Lodge directed to proceed to another election. At the previous Quarterly Communication a portrait of the Grand Master, the Prince of Wales, was presented to Grand Lodge. At this Communication the portrait of the Earl of Euston, Deputy Grand Master, was presented to Grand Mark Lodge by the Grafton Mark Lodge, No. 415, of which the Deputy Grand Master is a member.

The Prince of Wales was declared duly reinstated as Grand Master of the Grand Lodge of Mark Master Masons of England, Wales, etc., and was duly proclaimed as such.

The Grand Master appointed the Earl of Euston as Pro. Grand Master, and he was installed. The Marquis of Hertford was presented with the official collar and jewel of a

Past Grand Master of Grand Mark Lodge. The Viscount Dungarvin was appointed Deputy Grand Master and installed and the other officers appointed.

His Royal Highness, Albert Edward Prince of Wales, Grand Master.

The Right Hon. Earl of Euston, Pro. Grand Master.

C. Fitzgerald Matier, Mark Masons' Hall, Great Queen street, London, W.C., England, Grand Secretary.

## FLORIDA.

The Forty-seventh Annual Convocation of the Grand Chapter of Royal Arch Masons of the State of Florida was held in Jacksonville, May 9 and 10, 1893, M. E. Comp. Irving E. Webster, Grand High Priest, presiding. Four Past Grand High Priests present. Eight Chapters represented. Fifteen Grand Chapters were also represented by their accredited representatives. The Grand High Priest reported the death of Grand Secretary Comp. D. C. Dawkins, on October 5, 1892. Comp. Dawkins was well known. He had filled every official position in Grand Lodge and Grand Chapter, and his name gave to Masonry in Florida an exalted position. Two new Chapters were granted dispensation papers.

Among the decisions of the Grand High Priest we note "For all purposes except opening, closing and conferring degrees, nine members of the Chapter are necessary to constitute a quorum." If we understand this decision aright, if eight members and one visitor are present at a meeting, the Chapter can be opened, but it requires the presence of another member before the minutes can be read, committees report, and the candidates balloted for. Without the presence of the nine members, the work of the Chapter is stopped. We do not think this ever was so intended and the requirement is not universal. In Pennsylvania the Chapter can be opened and closed with three members present, one of whom must be the High Priest, King or Scribe, but the degree cannot be conferred with a less number than six being present. This has been the work in Pennsylvania for a time that the memory of man runneth not to the contrary.

The Grand Chapter of Florida permits the opening of special Lodges of Mark Master, Past Master and Most Excel-

lent Master without first opening the Chapter. This is contrary to our usage. The warrant of a Chapter is given to certain Companions to open and form a Chapter of Royal Arch Masons and thereunder open a Lodge of Mark Master Masons, etc. Without the Chapter warrant nothing can be opened; under it a Chapter of Royal Arch Masons can be opened and closed or called off and a Lodge of Mark Master Masons be opened.

The ritual of the General Grand Chapter was adopted. Charters were granted to two new Chapters, and then occurs what we have never met with before in a Masonic Grand Body. The proceedings read:

"Comp. A. S. Wright, named in the charter of Plant City Chapter as High Priest, and Comp. A. C. Martin, named in the charter of Monroe Chapter as King, being present, on motion duly adopted the Grand High Priest appointed Comp. P. G. H. P. Angus Patterson to install said Companions W. and M. into their respective offices—and his report thereon was duly received and adopted."

When were these Chapters constituted? A High Priest installed without a Chapter? A King installed without a High Priest or a Chapter? Again we note that before any action was taken as to the completion of charter and the constituting of the Chapter that these Chapters and Companions were placed upon the pay roll and had mileage and per diem awarded them. We are sure that if our good Companion, Grand Secretary Dawkins were alive and present, things would not have been so mixed up as they now appear to be.

The Committee appointed two years ago on the Status of Cryptic Masonry in this jurisdiction having failed to report, and there appearing to be no good reason why the Grand Chapter should investigate or inquire into the matter of Cryptic Masonry, were on motion discharged.

We notice further something we do not understand. Comp. Alexander C. Martin, to whom we referred to above as having been installed as King of Monroe Chapter, No. 15, not then constituted or in existence, made application to the Grand Council for the Order of High Priesthood, was declared eligible, introduced and consecrated and anointed High Priest. Are Kings eligible to the Order of High Priesthood in Florida?

Fifteen Chapters, 496 members.

Silas B. Wright, De Land, Grand High Priest; William A. McLean, Jacksonville, Grand Secretary.

## GEORGIA.

The Seventy-first Annual Convocation of the M. E. Grand Chapter of Royal Arch Masons of the State of Georgia was held in Atlanta, April 26, 1893, Comp. James W. Taylor, M. E. Grand High Priest, presiding. Two Past Grand High Priests present, seventy Chapters represented and the representatives of twenty-five Grand Chapters being present. The Grand High Priest in his address refers to the deaths of P. G. H. Priest G. W. Adams, and Comp. A. I. Leet, Grand Chaplain of his jurisdiction. Permission was granted to Greenville Chapter to suspend their meetings until a suitable place of meeting could be secured. On May 3, a cyclone struck Greenville and almost entirely swept it away, reducing to poverty her citizens and not leaving a stone remaining where once stood the Masonic College and Temple, all the archives, records, jewels, and everything belonging to the Lodge and Chapter destroyed and dispersed. Grand Chapter appropriated \$250 for their relief and its past dues were remitted.

Four dispensations for new Chapters were granted, and fourteen Chapters constituted. A standard form of By-Laws was adopted. The Committee on Correspondence Chairman was paid \$100 for his services in preparing the report. The Grand Secretary was paid \$500 for his services. Mileage was ordered paid at 10 cents per mile traveled instead of 5 cents, in addition to \$3 per day. Four charters were granted, and the High Priests of such who were present were granted mileage and per diem. Is not this a violation of Section 6, paragraph 1, of the Constitution, which says each member of Grand Chapter shall be entitled to mileage? Are they members of Grand Chapters until their Chapters are constituted and the officers installed? A jewel was ordered to be transmitted for the liberty bell of the Columbian Exposition as a contribution from the Grand Chapter of Georgia.

We notice what to our mind should not appear in print, and it lies in the discretion of the Grand Secretary to omit from the proceedings as not being proper to appear on record. What we refer to is the report of the Committee on Ritual, in

which they report the ritual as having been perfected and printed. This work is not, as far as we understand it, the ritual of the General Grand Chapter.

Comp. W. S. Ramsay writes the report on correspondence, reviewing proceedings of thirty-one Grand Chapters, Pennsylvania not among the number. We know the proceedings of our Grand Chapter were mailed to Grand Secretary Wolihin, but why they failed to reach him we know not. He quotes freely and criticises fairly. In reviewing the report of Iowa and its action on the Masonic Home he says :

“ Business is business, but freedom from poverty is no guarantee of exemption from misfortune. It does not matter how it is done, only so it is done, whether at home, in hotels, boarding schools or asylums, so the cry is heard and provision is made for the orphan and the widow. It is in her charities that Masonry has spoken, during centuries past, and her voice must not be silent now when suffering humanity makes its appeal.”

Speaking of the reports on correspondence, he says :

“ Our understanding of these reports is that they are to aid in aiming at a true answer to the inquiry, ‘ What is truth ? ’ and to bring all questions to the *light* that truth may be discovered. Not to disturb the peace by discussion, but to bring into one harmonious whole the Royal Craft by comparison and investigation.”

He holds that a Companion cannot dimit from his Lodge or Chapter if the Lodge or Chapter is in debt, and asks, “ Can he shift his part of the burden on another ? Is he ‘ clear of the books,’ if this is the case ? ” and says that “ every man shall bear his own burden.” Why, Comp. Ramsay, if your view was agreed to, then no Chapter could grant a dimit until it had balanced its accounts every time a dimit was asked for and a *pro rata* assessment made as to the dimiting member’s share of the indebtedness and its payment. The idea suggested by Comp. Ramsay is a novel one, and we do not remember of its ever having been discussed before. The right of dimit is unquestioned. A man applies for the rights and privileges of Masonry of his own free will and accord, and he desires to withdraw from that particular body of which he is a member by payment of the dues he is owing and tendering his resignation. He has that right unquestionably under the By-Laws and common sense. If the amount of dues were fixed annu-

ally after ascertaining the indebtedness of the Chapter, he would be obliged to pay the amount, be it large or small; but when he pays the amount fixed by the By-Laws he should not be hindered or impeded. We hold that once a Mason always a Mason. The obligations are mutual without any qualification whatever. There is nothing that can relieve or absolve a Mason from his obligations, in health or sickness, prosperity or distress, in good Masonic standing or otherwise, in poverty or riches, always the same, he is a Mason. The sympathy in sickness and distress and poverty may be denied or refused, the head may be turned the other way in passing by, the hand be withheld, yet the ties of Masonry cannot be broken. Freemasonry does not for one moment concede that a Mason can resign from Freemasonry or renounce it, neither can it withdraw from him its mystic influences and sympathies.

Comp. Ramsay's first report on Capitular Masonry is bright and cheery.

Eighty Chapters, with 3121 members.

James W. Taylor, Luthersville, Grand High Priest; Andrew M. Wolihin, Macon, Grand Secretary.

## ILLINOIS.

The Forty-fourth Annual Convocation of the Grand Royal Arch Chapter of the State of Illinois was held October 26, 1893, M. E. Comp. Richard T. Higgins, Grand High Priest, presiding.

One hundred and sixty-one Chapters represented, eighteen Past Grand High Priests present, forty-two representatives of sister Grand Chapters.

The address of the Grand High Priest covers eight pages. The dead of his own and sister jurisdictions have his sympathetic words.

The usual number of dispensations were issued. Dispensations were issued to six new Chapters. Two Chapters were constituted. Attention is called to the Masonic Orphans' Home. The Grand Chapter paid Comp. Jno. M. Pearson \$150 for report on correspondence, the Grand High Priest \$400 salary, Grand Secretary \$1200 salary, and the Grand Treasurer two per cent. on amount of disbursements. An amended Code of Constitution, By-Laws, Forms, etc., was re-

ported and laid over for one year. A proposition to reduce Grand Chapter dues from 60 to 50 cents was not adopted. \$500 was donated to the Masonic Orphans' Home. A Past Grand High Priest's jewel was presented to the retiring Grand High Priest. Grand Chapter pays \$2 per diem and 5 cents a mile each way from place of residence, to the Grand Officers and highest representative present of each Chapter present at the annual meeting. An applicant for membership need not be a member of a Blue Lodge or affiliated Master Mason, while a petitioner for the Royal Arch degree must be a member of a Blue Lodge.

Comp. John M. Pearson presented the report on correspondence (his eighth), reviewing the proceedings of forty-seven Grand Chapters.

In his review of Arkansas, referring to the General Grand Chapter and those Grand Chapters outside of its legislative control and the appointment by it of committees to visit and confer with those Grand Chapters, he says :

"While we have no objection to peaceful methods and are willing to wait a reasonable time, yet we see no escape from the logical conclusion of the General Grand High Priest that if 'they resolve to remain in their condition of isolation they ought not in justice to complain if their isolation is made complete.' This, of course, would 'bar out' our Knights Templar and Commanderies, and we hope the occasion may not arise. But it should not be a thing from which, from fear, we should shrink."

Is there a hidden meaning in this sentence? If so, let us Royal Arch Masons of Pennsylvania know. We know, according to the statutes of the Grand Encampment of Knights Templar of the United States, the Pennsylvania Knights Templar are "not in it," or if they are, it is by an evasion of the law which only recognizes Royal Arch Masons under the government of the General Grand Chapter. Pennsylvania is not, cannot and will not be a constituent of the General Grand Chapter until our system of Freemasonry is changed.

As a matter of information to Comp. Pearson, we would say that with us no Master Mason can apply for the Mark degree or Most Excellent and Royal Arch degrees unless he has first passed the Chair (*i. e.*, become a Past Master). Our Chapters have nothing to do with nor know anything about conferring the Past Master's degree.

We do not think the General Grand Chapter would ever be

foolish enough to attempt to use anything else than "peaceful methods" with any Grand Chapter that is outside of its control or which does not recognize its authority. It is not supreme and never was supreme and never will be supreme in these United States.

Comp. Pearson, in regard to the lectures, says truly, that they may be omitted :

"Are of very modern birth, while Royal Arch Masonry is of very respectable age. The august degree is conferred and the Brother is a Companion Royal Arch Mason before he hears the lecture."

Speaking of the Twenty-fifth Anniversary of Grand Chapter of Delaware, he says :

"Were our Delaware Companions less modest they would claim existence from the start, with fifty added years, as do some of their neighbors."

To whom does Comp. Pearson refer, Maryland or Pennsylvania? If Pennsylvania, we would advise Comp. Pearson to read Masonic history a little more closely. We know that what Pennsylvania claims is supported on as strong a basis as Comp. Pearson's existence.

Pennsylvania for December 27, 1892, comes up for review. Quotations are made from the addresses of Grand High Priest Morgan and Grand High Priest Tennis. He says that in "none of our larger jurisdictions is the duty of visitation so well performed as in this State" (Pennsylvania).

He says :

"Old and experienced as are our Companions in this State, they have not yet solved the Ritual question and the best mode of disseminating it."

Yes, we have, Comp. Pearson. We have our schools of instruction, well taught, well officered and having the correct work, and disseminated, as only Masonic esoteric work can be, by word of mouth. No printing, writing, etc., permitted with us.

He speaks of the report on correspondence, the joint work of five members of the committee, and quotes from Comps. Henderson, Meyer and Africa. In reviewing our remarks on Virginia he has to say :

"For ourselves we cannot see what sovereignty either the Grand

Chapter of Pennsylvania or the Grand Chapter of Virginia ever had to surrender. The former for about twenty-five years was only an 'annex' of the Grand Lodge, and neither can to-day admit a member without the consent of a Lodge and the Lodge can, without asking the consent of a Chapter, annihilate all Chapter rights and privileges at its own 'sweet will. Sovereign! forsooth. There is, then, neither the reality nor even the appearance."

Now, Comp. Pearson, the above are only words and mean nothing. The Grand Chapter of Pennsylvania, and we may also say the Grand Chapter of Virginia, are the only Grand Chapters in the United States that can actually claim sovereignty. All the rest, Illinois included, are subordinate to the General Grand, and the General Grand is not sovereign in this country. The Grand Chapter of Pennsylvania was never an annex to the Grand Lodge for twenty-five years or for one year; it was always a Grand Chapter. And as we cannot admit a member without the consent of a Lodge and the Lodge can, without asking the consent of a Chapter, annihilate all Chapter rights and privileges of its own sweet will and accord, so neither can Illinois lawfully under its Constitution do so (see sec. 49, sec. 5, sec. 8).

Speaking of Comp. Africa, he says:

"Comp. Africa, in his work, is evidently like yon Elihu, 'full of matter.' See Job xxxiii. 18, forward and back."

We have read his reference which reads, "He keepeth back his soul from the pit and his life from perishing by the sword," and fail to see its application.

He then quotes from Comp. Lyte's review and expresses his fears, while reading the report, that the whole Chapter fraternity, except in Pennsylvania, was going to the "demnition bow-wows." Have no fears of us, Comp. Pearson, for if you walk in the paths we would make known to you, you will find crooked things made straight and darkness light. Comp. Pearson believes, as we do in Pennsylvania, that "Grand Chapter by charter does not mortgage, as it were, all the Master Masons in a certain territory to a Chapter which for personal reasons they may not wish to join."

With his review of Wisconsin the report abruptly ends.

One hundred and eighty Chapters, 15,388 members.

J. W. Hutchinson, Greenfield, Grand High Priest; Gil W. Barnard, Chicago, Grand Secretary.

## INDIANA.

The Forty-eighth Annual Convocation of the Grand Chapter of Royal Arch Masons of the State of Indiana was held in Indianapolis, October 18, 1893.

Under the most sorrowful circumstances the M. E. Grand King, Comp. Orlando W. Brownback, called the Grand Chapter to order and requested one of the Past Grand High Priests to act as Grand High Priest. The Grand Chapter had lost by death not only its Grand High Priest, Comp. Edward S. Ross, but also the Deputy Grand High Priest, Comp. La Grange Severance. We do not remember of ever hearing of a like bereavement. Eighty-one Chapters represented. Thirteen Past Grand High Priests. Representatives of twenty-eight sister Grand Chapters.

The Grand King presented the report for the past year.

Three dispensations for new Chapters were issued.

Comp. Thomas B. Long presented the report on correspondence. He reviewed the proceedings of fifty Grand Chapters. He quotes freely and comments thereon in a fraternal manner. Pennsylvania for 1892 comes in for its share of his examination. He makes comments on Grand High Priests Morgan's and Tennis' addresses. Of the report on correspondence by the five, he pronounces it "a very excellent (for how could it be otherwise?) report," in which each of these authors does credit not only to himself but to his Grand jurisdiction. Comp. Long's report is such a pleasing review of the proceedings of sister Grand Chapters, that we find it impossible to quote from without destroying what we should like to lay before our Grand Chapter.

Eighty-nine Chapters, 6196 members.

Orlando W. Brownback, Pendleton, Grand High Priest; William H. Smythe, Indianapolis, Grand Secretary.

## INDIAN TERRITORY.

The Fifth Regular Convocation of the Grand Royal Arch Chapter of Indian Territory was held at McAlester, Choctaw Nation, August 10, 1893. Comp. Walter Nuel Evans, Grand High Priest, presiding. Six Chapters represented; three Past

Grand High Priests present; also representatives of nine Grand Chapters. The address of the Grand High Priest is a practical business paper. He thanks the Grand Secretary for sending him the proceedings of sister Grand Chapters, from the perusal of which he gained much Masonic information and derived much pleasure. He says, "Being an old-fashioned Mason, I confess that I was shocked to read of the custom of introducing persons not Masons, both ladies and gentlemen, into the Chapter room to furnish music during the conferring of degrees. This was actually done in the State of New York. It was, however, stopped by order of the Grand High Priest." Five dispensations for new chapters were granted and one declined. Among the commissions issued was one to Comp. R. M. Johnson, as Grand Representative near Grand Chapter of Pennsylvania.

He very justly decided that a Master Mason who was employed as a bookkeeper and collector for a brewing firm was not disqualified from taking the Royal Arch degrees.

We note here, as in several other Grand Chapters, that representatives of Chapters under dispensation were admitted to seats and votes in Grand Chapter the same as regular Chapters. In our opinion, a Chapter under dispensation, the creation and creature of the Grand High Priest, ceases its brief existence when the Grand Chapter meets. Grand Chapter acts upon its petition for perpetual warrant, which, being granted, the life of the Chapter does not begin until it is duly constituted and its officers installed. A Chapter cannot come into existence without being constituted or exist without officers; an officer cannot legally act until he is installed.

No report on correspondence.

Twelve Chapters, 325 members.

Leo Edmond Bennett, Muskogee, Grand High Priest; Joseph S. Murrow, Atoka, Grand Secretary.

## IOWA.

The Thirty-ninth Annual Convocation of the Grand Chapter of Royal Arch Masons of Iowa was held in Council Bluffs, November 17, 1892, Comp. William Wilbraham, Grand High Priest, presiding. Eighty-eight Chapters repre-

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sented, six Past Grand High Priests, twenty representatives of Grand Chapters.

One reading the proceedings of this Grand Chapter would imagine that it was the dwelling place of poets. The Grand High Priest, several of the committees and the reporter on correspondence seem full to the brim and running over with poetry, and while the original and selected matter is mainly good, there is to be found some not quite so good. The Grand Chapter was meeting in Council Bluffs and in the reply of the Grand High Priest to the welcome of the Companions of that place the following appears :

" We haven't come here to quite take your city,  
Though you speak about villains and roughs ;  
We *have* come out to take counsel,  
But we'll never take your *bluffs*."

The address of the Grand High Priest is a recital of his official acts. Because the General Grand High Priest had officially proclaimed that the Grand Chapter of West Virginia had become a constituent member of the General Grand Chapter, the Grand High Priest of Iowa issued his proclamation, extending its official and fraternal recognition and recommended that fraternal relations may be fully established. Query: Was not the Grand Chapter of West Virginia fully recognized by the Grand Chapter of Iowa before its becoming subordinate to the General Grand Chapter, or was this official recognition something new? Are not the Grand Chapters of Virginia, Pennsylvania, Texas and Rhode Island now recognized by the Grand Chapter of Iowa? and yet they are not subordinates of the General Grand Chapter. He had granted dispensations and also refused the following: "A Chapter made a request to elect 'several teams' ('team' is a word used occasionally in some Grand Chapters, possibly referring to the fact that the Chapter had got stuck in the mud and required a team to pull it out), upon the night their applications were received, and to confer all the degrees upon the said several teams on two or three successive evenings. It was said that the matter was quite urgent, so much so that if the Chapter did not get them at the time stated they could not get them at all. In reply to my inquiries I was informed that six brothers were very anxious to receive the Chapter and Commandery degrees within a given

time to enable the said brothers to take the Shrine. Probably some, if not all, of these brothers have been Masons for years, with ample opportunities for receiving the degree, and now for the first time make application therefor. Apparently the only reason they had for becoming Chapter members was that by this route alone they could reach the Shrine. Had the dispensation been granted and degrees conferred, what knowledge of Chapter Masonry would these Brethren have gained? What impressions received, and how long would they remain members of the Chapter after having been called upon to pay dues and what, may I ask, would the Chapter conferring the degrees have gained beyond the initiation fee? Companions this is not as it should be. If the degrees are worth receiving they are worth study." The Grand High Priest of Iowa deserves the thanks of the Craft for this refusal.

Five hundred dollars was paid the Chairman of Committee on Codification for his services in preparing the report. Sixty-six dollars and twenty-five cents was the *tribute* paid by Iowa to General Grand Chapter in the way of per capita assessment.

The Committee on the Grand High Priest's Address reported on the subject of Grand Representatives:

"By the courtesy of Past Grand High Priest Quimby, the offices of Grand Representatives ending during his term remained vacant, and the pleasing duty of filling them was left for his successor. This he has done as our law requires, and presents the long list to you, if not for approval, at least for our information.

"As this is in accord with our present law, we can only commend him for a proper discharge of his duties. But let us suggest what may not be, possibly, within the strict province of this committee. We think that the law of this jurisdiction should be changed, and the office of Grand Representative discontinued. It is useless; it is without reason from the ceremonies or traditions of our Craft. And if it be desirable to have a class into which to place those Companions we may delight to honor, it would be more direct and to the purpose to have a roll prepared for those meriting it. The Grand Lodge of Masons is supreme and independent, and there might be a faint reason for a representative to a foreign body, as other Grand Lodges in one sense are. But we are fellow-members of the Supreme Grand Chapter of the United States, and why should it be thought necessary to continue diplomatic corps between us? It is as if the State of Iowa should conclude to send a minister plenipotentiary to the State of Illinois, or a consul to the port of Chicago, or of Omaha; or, the comparison would be more fitting and exact if the various subordinate Chapters should appoint Chapter representatives between themselves. There would not be enough Companions to go around.

"These Grand Representatives are ornamental only; they are never

made use of in any matter of business among the Grand Chapters. In fact the term of our Grand High Priest would have to be lengthened if he ever reached the end of anything in this round-about way. It is contrary to the direct business methods of Americans of this day, whether in Masonic affairs or in the labors of the world."

From the report of the Custodians of the Work we learn that while the Grand Chapter is illegally conferring the Cryptic degrees, yet their ritual is so imperfect that the Custodians are unable to instruct the Companions therein.

The Grand Chapter pays the Grand Secretary \$900 per year; the Committee on Correspondence \$100.

The report of Committee on Correspondence is made by Comp. Thomas R. Ercanbrack. In a style peculiarly his own, forty-five Grand Chapters are reviewed. He quotes freely and comments fairly. We pity the man who bears the credentials of Iowa's Grand Chapter's representative near a sister Grand Chapter. If he is absent he gets fits; if he is present and does not make a speech or offer a motion, or is not on a committee of some sort, he gets a talking to.

The close of the review of each Grand Chapter calls forth a few lines of poetry.

He commences his review of Pennsylvania for 1891 as follows:

"One of the most illustrious words connected with American history is that of 'Pennsylvania.' The word is purely American, without any aroma of a foreign country, except that William Penn was an Englishman. That portion of the earth denominated Pennsylvania is fairly extensive; its location is central and pivotal. So large are the resources, so illustrious is the history, and so energetic are the people of that State, that the very utterance of the name 'Pennsylvania' is always followed by thoughtful attention. The institution called 'The Most Excellent Grand Holy Royal Arch Chapter of Pennsylvania and Masonic jurisdiction thereunto belonging,' is one of the mightiest forces in that mighty State. No nobler or more efficient men can be found than the thirteen thousand six hundred and forty-five who are comprehended under the above title. They have the uprightness of Christians and the swing of conquer.

"The exaltation of one thousand and twenty-two last year taxed the physical energies of ninety-nine out of the one hundred and twelve principal sojourners in the jurisdiction, and in some cases severely. In Zerubbabel Chapter he hauled thirty-nine over the broken bridge; in Harmony Chapter he engineered fifty-two through the rubbish of Tadmor, and in Oriental Chapter he portrayed the beauties of the Euphrates valley to no less than seventy-four curious travelers. The net gain for the year was seven hundred and five, and the number would have been

greater had not forty-nine been barred out by the inexorable black ball."

He quotes in full Comp. William James Hughan's letter to our Grand Chapter. He says that Grand High Priest Morgan's declaration of the independence of our Grand Chapter is "out of harmony with the spirit of our times and of our country. Exclusiveness and isolation are not Masonic or Christian. 'Tis the union of hearts and the union of hands that cheers the world and brings it into a similitude with Heaven." We fail to see in any single particular that we are out of harmony with any thing or any body. We are not exclusive nor are we isolated or un-Masonic or un-Christian. We are open to all the world, our Lodges, our Chapters, our hearts, as much so and more so than if we were tributaries to any General Grand Chapter. Our united hearts and hands do all things possible to cheer the world and bring it into a similitude of Heaven.

He speaks of the very fine portraits, of the "brainy heads of Past Grand High Priests Nisbet and Barber." Comp. Bates' report on correspondence receives what it merits, the greatest praise, and he closes up the Pennsylvania review with the quotation: "The prudent man looketh well to his going" (Prov. xvi. 15).

One hundred and thirteen Chapters, 6654 members.

Clinton S. Fletcher, Atlantic, Grand High Priest; Alfred Wingate, Des Moines, Grand Secretary.

### IOWA, 1893.

The Fortieth Annual Convocation of the Grand Chapter of Royal Arch Masons of Iowa was held in Waterloo, October 12, 1893, Clinton S. Fletcher, Grand High Priest, presiding. Seventy-two Chapters represented, out of one hundred and thirteen in existence. Six Past Grand High Priests, and sixteen Grand Chapters represented.

The Custodians of the Work appear to be above the rest of the members of Grand Chapter, because we find it noted in the proceedings of 1892 and this year in the enumeration of those present at the opening, "together with Comps. Charles H. Wilder and A. S. Lawrence, Custodians of the Work."

We do not find their names in the Report of Credentials, so have concluded that without their presence the Grand Chapter cannot be legally opened. They had also prepared a diagram showing the position of floor officers in forming about the altar, which is inserted on a page immediately preceding the minutes. We note one thing in particular, that they have the altar placed in the centre of the Chapel Hall, almost in the same position as our Grand High Priest, Tennis, has decided it should be placed hereafter in our Chapters. Immediately after the opening, before roll call or reading of the minutes, the Grand Scribe offered a resolution, which was adopted, directing the Grand Guard "to properly drape a chair and place it in position in our midst in memory of two Companions who had once presided in the Grand Chapter of Iowa: Comp. John H. Brown, Grand Secretary of Kansas and Past Grand High Priest of Iowa, and Past Grand High Priest Comp. Sylvester S. Bean.

The address of the Grand High Priest calls attention to the dead, not only of Iowa, but of the Craft elsewhere. He is to be commended for the way he performed his duties, giving more than the usual time and attention thereto. He sent circular letters to the Chapters asking certain questions and requesting prompt replies, among these are:

"Is your Chapter incorporated under the laws of the State?

"Have you, during the last year, advanced any brother from any one of the Capitular degrees to another, without first requiring him to pass an examination as to his proficiency in the lecture of the former degree up to and including the Ob.?

"How many copies of the *Hindoo Theology* are in possession of your Chapter?

"Have you, *yourself*, used in the Chapter room any ritual or pretended ritual except the *Hindoo Theology* or authorized Council ritual?

"Have you permitted or suffered to be used in the Chapter room any ritual or pretended ritual except the *Hindoo Theology* or authorized Council ritual?

"How many meetings of your Chapter, including Council meetings, have been held since January 1, 1892?"

A second circular asked:

"How many members of your Chapter are dimited Master Masons?

"Have you a Book of Marks?

"How many members who were exalted in your Chapter prior to October, 1891, have not yet selected and recorded their marks, etc.?

"How many brothers have you advanced to the degree of Mark

Master since October, 1891, who have not yet selected and had recorded their marks within three months, etc.?

"Is there ever read in open Chapter the Constitution and Laws except for the purpose of announcing the law on some matter then under consideration?

"Is there ever read in open Chapter the Report of the Committee on Correspondence or any part of it?

"Have you used a substitute or substitutes in conferring the Royal Arch since January 1, 1893? If so, how many times?"

These questions are all pertinent and lie within the province of the Grand High Priest to ask, but we feel sure that the answers will be unsatisfactory. It must be a model Chapter that can truthfully answer every question asked and say that the law was complied with in every respect. About one-half of the Chapters replied to the circulars.

The Constitution of the Grand Chapter of Iowa says: "Neither the Grand Chapter nor any particular Chapter shall ever become or remain a corporation or body corporate." On examination nineteen Chapters were found to be incorporated. Some of these promised to proceed at once to dissolve the corporation, while others asked to be permitted to be incorporated. The Grand High Priest says, as near as he is able to learn, the Chapter has been used as a cat's paw for both the Lodge and Commandery. In several cases the Chapter has been incorporated for the purpose of holding title to real estate for itself and *in trust for the Lodge and Commandery*.

The Grand High Priest found that the Grand Chapter Charity Fund amounting to \$6000 could not be of any benefit until Grand Chapter met, "nine months hence." There was a case of immediate necessity, the Trustees of the Charity Fund were appealed to by the Grand High Priest, and they replied they would not dare to draw a cent of that Fund under any circumstance, as it was so closely hedged in by the law that it could only be drawn upon by a vote of the Grand Chapter. The Grand High Priest assumed the responsibility and drew his order on the Grand Treasurer of Grand Chapter for the amount required, which was countersigned by the Grand Secretary and the money paid at once and the widow relieved. The Grand Chapter approved of the action of the Grand High Priest.

The Grand Chapter of Iowa has been in the ritual printing

business and proposes to continue the business at the same old stand. Rituals are for sale at a certain sum in any quantity. We wonder if the same is copyrighted according to act of Congress. But what is this *Hindoo Theology* so much talked of? This is what the Grand High Priest says:

"The first application that was submitted to me for determination on assuming the duties of my office was a request from the Grand Z. of the Grand Chapter of Canada asking us to loan him a copy of our ritual for inspection, as they were about to revise the ritual in their jurisdiction. As we had but one copy, and through fear that it might become lost in transit, I felt obliged to decline to grant his request.

"Some few years ago we supplied the Grand Chapter of Kansas with copies of our *Hindoo Theology*, and this year I received a request that the extended copy be loaned them until they could make a copy. I appreciated the justness of their request, and also of our duty to grant it. For the same reason that I gave to the Grand Z. of Canada, I declined to send it to the Grand High Priest of Kansas at that time, but assured him that I would submit the matter to you for your consideration.

"The ritual is also sent from one member of the Board of Custodians to another in our own jurisdiction. Some accident is liable to happen, the work be destroyed or lost, and we ourselves be left without an extended copy at home.

"I recommend that another copy be made, and when not in use that it be kept in the office of the Grand Secretary, but under the control of the Grand High Priest.

"I also recommend that when the copy shall have been made that it be loaned to the Grand High Priest of Kansas, that he may make a copy for the benefit of that jurisdiction.

#### "HINDOO THEOLOGY.

"It was reported to this Grand Body in 1891 that the edition formerly printed had been exhausted. The Committee on Grand High Priest's Address recommended 'the appointment of a special committee of one by the incoming Grand High Priest with power to act, subject to the approval of the Grand High Priest.' So far as I am able to learn the special committee was never appointed, and the matter was passed without mention at the last convocation. During the year a goodly number of requisitions have been made on me for additional copies by Chapters already possessing one or more copies, and by about eighteen Chapters without a single copy. The greater portion of the Chapters have one copy, a few have two, one Chapter has three, two Chapters have four each, two Chapters have six each, and one Chapter has twelve. Inquiry has also been received from our sister Grand Jurisdiction of Nevada with reference to furnishing a supply to that Grand Chapter.

"A careful examination develops the fact that there are quite a number of typographical errors in the present edition which should be corrected before another edition shall be published. I believe it would enure to the material advancement of Capitular Masonry if the various

subordinate Chapters would supply themselves with a greater number of copies for the use of their officers and members.

"No method has heretofore been adopted by which it may be determined what Chapters have copies, or how many copies are to-day within the control of this Grand Body. In answer to my first circular-letter I endeavored to locate the number of copies of the Hindoo Theology subject to our control. In the tabulated statement presented as an exhibit hereto I have given the name of each Chapter and the number of copies reported by it to be in its possession.

"I recommend that the incoming Grand High Priest be authorized to correct, or have corrected, the typographical errors in the present edition, and to have another edition of not to exceed five hundred copies printed for use and distribution on the same, or better terms, if possible, than the former edition.

"I further recommend that he be authorized to furnish copies to any sister jurisdiction desiring to purchase them at the same price at which they are furnished to subordinate Chapters.

"I further recommend that each High Priest be required to take duplicate receipts from his successor for all copies of the Hindoo Theology in his possession, and that he immediately file one of the receipts with the Grand Secretary."

Query: If these rituals are for sale and the owner dies and it becomes a part of his estate, what control has Grand Chapter over its sale or disposal to non-Masons?

The Grand High Priest has this to say about the Grand Representatives:

"Section 17 of the Laws of this Grand Chapter, among other things, provides that the Grand High Priest 'shall appoint, at the time and in the manner fixed by law, representatives of this Grand Chapter near other Grand Chapters recognized by this Grand Chapter.' There, however, I find the law ends. I find no law or authority fixing the time or defining the manner to make any appointments of representatives; nor do I find any law determining the length of their term of office, nor have I found any law in the years gone by for making the appointments except as a matter of courtesy, or complying with a request and following a custom commenced in 1869. It is sometimes said that a custom may become a law. If it be claimed that the custom in this matter became a law long years ago, then I merely suggest that our laws adopted in October, 1891, expressly repeal all laws in force prior to their adoption, subject to the limitations therein expressed.

"In 1869 the Grand Secretary of this Grand Chapter presented his credentials from the Grand Chapter of Tennessee as its representative near this Grand Body, and was received and acknowledged as such representative. At the same convocation this Grand Body appointed its representative near the Grand Chapter of Tennessee. The succeeding year one other Grand Body followed the example of Tennessee with this Grand Chapter, and, as year followed year, appointment followed ap-

pointment, until, I believe, now every Grand Chapter in the United States, except Michigan, has its representative near this Grand Body, and this Grand Chapter has its representative near every other Grand Chapter in the United States except Michigan and Illinois. This Grand Body also exchanges representatives with the Grand Chapters of Canada, Nova Scotia, New Brunswick, Quebec, and Scotland. Michigan refuses to adopt the system.

"As the appointments in Iowa grew out of a custom with no fixed time for their termination, and as the zeal of our Iowa Companions is such that they never let go of anything they think is good and Masonic, it began to dawn on them after a time that the strong hand of the Almighty was the only thing that would terminate an appointment and permit the high honors to be passed around among the worthy and hungry Companions.

"In 1883 this Grand Body passed a resolution declaring that the term of office of Grand Representatives of this Grand Chapter near sister Grand Chapters should thereafter be limited to the triennial period. This, I suppose, was inaugurated in this jurisdiction, hoping and trusting that other Grand Bodies would follow its example, and soon the fat, honorable and much sought-after offices here would be passed around, and our Companions' hunger appeased.

"I have labored long and zealously that I might give my Companions more light, and also to learn what interest was displayed in other jurisdictions. To that end I addressed a communication to each Grand Secretary to learn when the term of office of their representatives expired, that I might be able to approximate and advise our Companions how long it would be before their fondest hopes would be realized and each in turn hold an office. Of the forty-eight Grand Secretaries addressed, all have replied but ten. Of those from whom answers have been received, only ten limit the term of office to the triennial period, and the others limit their appointments to the life of the appointee, or during good behavior.

"No Iowa Companion will ever be removed for lack of good behavior, and with only about ten offices to be distributed around every three years, many of our Companions will have to find some other way to get office, or else go a long while officially hungry.

"I also addressed to each representative of sister Grand Jurisdictions near this Grand Body the following questions :

"'Have you received a commission as representative from the Grand Chapter which you have the honor to represent?

"'Have you received the reports of that Grand Jurisdiction each year since you became its representative?

"'Have you had any other communication from that Grand Jurisdiction except as above?

"To these I have received replies from all but three. I am pleased to say that the office is considered of sufficient importance so that all of the representatives heard from but four have received their diplomas. Of the fortunate holders who make comment to show their appreciation of the honor and the dignity of the office held, besides simply answering the first question, 'yes' or 'no,' one says: 'Yes, a very fine one, and a fit souvenir for future pleasure.' Another one expresses the weight of responsibility which he feels is hanging on his shoulders, and shows the

estimation in which he holds the office by answering: 'Yes; dated October 3, 1889; printed in colors—scarlet and gold—nice.'

"In reply to the second question, I am also pleased to advise you that a few of the representatives, probably less than ten, have received copies of the proceedings of the Grand Bodies which they represent. Some say 'occasionally.' Another says: 'At first, eight or ten years ago, I did, but latterly not.' Another says: 'Only on a few occasions; when I wrote for them I got them; and when I did not write I did not get them.' Another says: 'I expressed a desire for them, but never received any.'

"To the question, 'Have you had any other communications from that Grand Jurisdiction except as above' (meaning receipt of the printed proceedings), the answer comes from five 'yes,' and from the other forty-three an emphatic 'no.'

"Our worthy representative near the Grand Chapter of Pennsylvania writes 'that he wishes some brainy Mason would find something for a representative to do.' Beloved Companion, in 1878 the brainy Masons of this Grand Jurisdiction attempted, by resolution, to dispense with the Committee on Foreign Correspondence, and recommended that instead thereof each representative of the different Grand Bodies near this Grand Chapter should present a short and concise report of the doings of the Grand Jurisdiction which it was his pleasure and honor to represent. The attempted change did not prove a success. The Committee on Foreign Correspondence was continued thereafter, and assigned its usual work. The Envoy Extraordinary and Minister Plenipotentiary was given time and opportunity to reflect upon the arduous duties that might be assigned him in the future. Ever since then, however, he has been permitted to spend his official time viewing, with pleasure and delight, his highly colored diploma, printed, perchance, in scarlet and gold. Of those who have never received a commission, one is your humble servant. I, myself, have blushingly borne the high honor of seeing my name printed for two years in the Grand Chapter reports as the accredited representative of the Grand Chapter of Quebec near this Grand Chapter, but during that time I have never received the least impression of type or goose-quill advising me of the appointment. I am told that *their* diploma is 'a very fine one, and a fit souvenir for future pleasure,' and 'is printed in colors—scarlet and gold—nice,' although it has never been my good fortune to feast my optics upon it.

"Is it not meet, after twenty-four years of experience with the system, to lay aside all personal preferences, and ask ourselves: Is the Grand Representative system, and are the Grand Representatives of any real value to the Craft, or is the office an honorary one shorn of all usefulness and benefit? We are taught that Masonry is a progressive science, and that until we shall have mastered and understood the full meaning of every symbol, form, and ceremony through which we have passed in the Order, and until we shall have become perfect men in thought, word, and act, there is ample scope for reflection and study, and room for education and improvement. Every tenet and principle of the Order admonishes us to improve all of the precious minutes allotted to us here below, and urges us to use our best efforts to make ourselves as near as we can in the image of Him—

'Who reigns second in heaven,  
But had nought on earth whereon to lay His head.'

"Have we yet reached that state of perfection?" Have we used all the time we could to attain that end? If we have not, why should we not devote our energies to the study and exemplification of those beautiful principles which improve and elevate us, and draw us nearer the line of perfection?

"I do not see or find one useful or redeeming feature in the whole representative system. I do see and find enough in the study of Masonry to consume all of the time allotted to us, and countless ages more.

"I recommend that the custom of appointing representatives be discontinued."

The Grand High Priest is not a believer in the merging craze of Chapter and Council.

He has this to say on

#### "CRYPTIC MASONRY."

"At the last convocation of this Grand Chapter, by a resolution, the Board of Custodians was appointed a committee to revise the ritual of the Cryptic degrees for this jurisdiction. The committee will present its report to you in due season.

"The forms, ceremonies, and teachings of the Cryptic degrees, like all the other degrees in Masonry, are beautiful, instructive, and impressive. It has always seemed to me that the way to secure the most good and enjoyment out of Cryptic Masonry was to place ourselves in a position to enjoy it with all the rest of the Masonic world, and to commune with our Brethren in the Secret Vault. Iowa is alone, or nearly alone, in tacking the Cryptic degrees to the Capitular degrees, like the tail to an overbalanced kite. We are exiled from the remainder of the Cryptic world. I, for one, personally, have a strong desire to associate with my Cryptic Brethren in other jurisdictions. It seems to me that Cryptic Masonry by itself in this jurisdiction, and in a position to receive the hearty support of the rest of the world, can be no more inactive and valueless than it is to-day while we are excluded, as Cryptic Masons, from the society of all true Cryptic Masons throughout the world.

"I recommend that Chapter xxiv of the laws be repealed, and that a Grand Council of Royal and Select Masters be organized and given control over Cryptic Masonry in this Grand jurisdiction."

The Committee on Grand High Priest's Address said, "In the light of the consideration of the subjects of Capitular Masonry, weak Chapters and unpaid dues, we cannot refrain from questioning the wisdom of instituting additional Masonic bodies in this Grand jurisdiction," meaning the reorganization of the former Grand Council. The Grand Chapter, however, resolved that no legislation concerning the Cryptic degrees be had at this Convocation.

Here's something for subordinate Chapters to note. It can-

not be wondered at that subordinates sometimes evade the law when the Grand Chapter sets them this example: "On motion it was agreed that this body proceed to the election of officers at once instead of to-morrow, as *provided by law*," and the election was held.

A Cryptic ritual was read and adopted. We ask what does the Grand Chapter know of Cryptic Masonry? It was also ordered that the ritual of the Cryptic degrees be printed and promulgated.

The report on correspondence was again from the hands or the pen of Comp. T. R. Ercanbrack. He reviews the proceedings of forty-six Grand Chapters.

We spoke before of the poetical effusions of the Companions of Iowa, and we would like very much to get a chance to study the library of Comp. Ercanbrack. The style of quotations of the Grand High Priest and committees and the report on correspondence all fall in the same style, and we have an idea that the Grand High Priest and the committees must have ready access to his library or else Comp. Ercanbrack has to theirs. However that may be, they are aptly chosen and fit in nicely, and give a delightful savor to the whole report of the proceedings. In commenting on the proceedings of the Grand Chapter of Canada he aptly says:

"Books may be divided into two classes, as to their readability. On opening a book of the first class a voice is heard from the open pages, 'Read me.' On opening one of the other class the voice is, 'Shut me up.'"

Canada proceedings he likens to the latter or other class. It is rather strange and unique to read what Comp. Ercanbrack has to say in review of his own jurisdiction (Iowa) and of his own report on correspondence. He says:

"A partial reading of the report on correspondence reminds one of that early periodical which Steele called the 'Tattler.' It smatters more of personal observations than of searches in libraries. A reading of the whole report suggests the lines of Alice Carey:

"How many lives we live in one  
And how much less than one in all."

Well, this settles anything I might want to say about the report.

Of Pennsylvania he says most kindly words and quotes from Grand High Priest Tennis' address. He seems pleased that Iowa's representative was present at Grand Chapter Communication, for he says:

"We also note the cheerful presence of Comp. Joshua L. Lyte, the Iowa minister at the Royal Court of Pennsylvania."

Of the report on correspondence he says:

"The five associates so successfully emulated each other that for excellence all of the reviews might have been written by one person. Each sketch is brief and pointed."

He closes Pennsylvania's review by

"Thou hast seen a farmer's dog bark at a beggar."

This year we recognize the beggar and give a little more.

One hundred and thirteen Chapters, 6855 members.

Frederick W. Craig, Des Moines, Grand High Priest; Alfred Wingate, Des Moines, Grand Secretary.

## KANSAS.

The Twenty-eighth Annual Convocation of the Grand Chapter of Royal Arch Masons of Kansas was held at Hutchinson, February 13, 1893, Comp. John C. Postlethwaite, Grand High Priest, presiding. Fifty-five Chapters, nine Past Grand High Priests, and representatives of twenty two Grand Chapters present.

The Grand High Priest's address refers to the dead and also the Masonic Home. In speaking of the Grand Lecturer, he says that thirteen Chapters disapproved and thirty-five Chapters approved the system. He addressed a circular to the Chapters asking the question, "Do you need the services of the Grand Lecturer?" About fifty Chapters replied "No."

The sickness of the Grand Tyler and of Grand Secretary John H. Brown was announced by the Grand High Priest. The Columbian Exposition came in for a share of his remarks.

He also decided

"That the serving of beer or other intoxicants at banquets under the auspices of the Chapter is in direct violation of the principles of our Order."

Three thousand dollars was appropriated to the formation of a Masonic Home for the aged, the widow and the orphan.

Comp. John H. Brown presented the report on correspondence, reviewing the proceedings of forty-four Grand Chapters, the proceedings of Pennsylvania being for 1892. The report is hardly up to Comp. Brown's standard. He says:

"This year we are a little too weary to more than epitomize the work of others."

And he ends his report with :

"We here close this report and confess we are glad it is done, for with weary brain and tired fingers we have gone through with the work."

Poor Brown! You did not live long after closing this report. You were a good friend and Brother, able and just, always a worker, and working to the last. Scarcely a month after the close of Grand Chapter and you were dead.

Seventy-seven Chapters, 4699 members.

Bester G. Brown, Topeka, Grand High Priest; John H. Brown, Kansas City, Grand Secretary.

Spencer P. Wade, Topeka, was appointed Grand Secretary in place of John H. Brown, who died March, 1893.

## KENTUCKY.

The (?) Annual Convocation of the Grand Chapter of Kentucky Royal Arch Masons was held in Louisville, October 17 and 18, 1893, Comp. Campbell H. Johnson, Grand High Priest, presiding.

Fifty-six Chapters, nine Past Grand High Priests, twenty-nine Grand Representatives present.

The Grand High Priest in his address, speaking of death, says :

"What an awful word to contemplate! Yet each letter of this word that

tells the end of man is the initial letter of the attributes of God—*Divine, Eternal, Almighty, Triune, Heaven*. Therefore, in contemplating death, if we have constantly kept holiness to the Lord engraved upon our foreheads and in our hearts, then may we look not upon it with horror or sadness, but it will rather remind us that it is a time of separation from sin and sorrow and a flight to the realms of our Divine, Eternal, Almighty, Triune and Heavenly Father, where we will participate in an eternal day of joy and gladness."

In order to curtail the expenses, the Grand High Priest suggests the omission of the printing of the names of the members of each Chapter and also the report on correspondence. The omission of the names is all right, for it is subject to much abuse. Advertisers of all kinds, by its means, are sending their circulars and begging letters to the individual members, etc. The omission of the report on correspondence is, we think, a great mistake. It is the only means the Craft in Kentucky have of learning what others are doing.

He had refused to change the appointment of a Grand Representative near Nebraska unless some reason should be given why the change asked for should be made.

The Masonic Home comes in for a kind word. The Grand High Priest says:

"We have no provision for our Brother who needs some one to sympathize with him, cool his fevered brow, give him the cooling draught that will moisten the parched lips and make his declining years peaceful and happy. In our borders, away from the cities where skilled attention can be procured, are nearly, if not quite, fifteen thousand Brother Masons. Multiply this by three and we have the great number of forty-five thousand precious souls that look to us in time of need, and yet when affliction assails them and they are required to come to the city for the treatment of the specialist there is no Masonic or Protestant door open to receive them, nor the outstretched arms of a Brother to greet them, but to a Roman infirmary they must go, there to be nursed by those who call us heretics, who issue their Bulls against us and are our acknowledged enemies. Companions, we need—we must have an infirmary. We must have a shelter where our Brethren and their loved ones can find rest, sweet rest; peace, sweet peace, in time of need, and be surrounded by loved ones and be ministered to by friends. Let no one rest until we can point to a rest for our Brother in need as well as for the widow and orphan."

The above sounds well, all except the "Roman infirmary, heretics, Bulls," etc. We think them out of place in a Masonic document. Masonry does not wage war, but preaches and teaches "peace, sweet peace," "malice towards none, charity

towards all." The road is wide enough along which we are traveling, and life is too brief to be forever fighting. If any one, no matter if our bitterest enemy, sets us a good example, let us do better and excel not in words but deeds. Masonry has more to fear from Masons, those of the Brotherhood, than from the Bulls and excommunication of the Romish or any other sect or creed. Masonry has been made too common, too popular. Its doors have opened too freely and the comparison of the present of Masonic membership is not altogether favorable to the latter, and the seed sown has not fallen on fallow soil. Politics, bigotry, calumny and vituperation are not handmaids of Freemasonry.

A report was made and adopted, declining to extend recognition to the Grand Mark Lodge of England. The report is hardly correct in some particulars. We know fully what we are talking about, as we have fully investigated the troubles between the Grand Chapter of Quebec and the Grand Mark Lodge of England. Grand Mark Lodge acting upon the English regulations, that where there was an English Lodge of Master Masons, that Mark Lodges and Chapters, etc., can be attached thereto on proper application. When the Grand Bodies in Canada and Quebec became independent some of the Lodges held warrants from Grand Lodge of England, which they declined to surrender, and come under the Canadian Grand Lodges. The Grand Lodge of England could not justly and Masonically take these charters away unless for causes such as would have called for the suspension of the warrant and so the two bodies met in the same place, one under the Canadian and the other under English warrant. I know that the Grand Chapter of Quebec wanted to heal the difficulty and offered everything that a Mason could offer to have these Mark Lodges surrender their English warrants. I know that the Grand Mark Lodge of England wanted these warrants surrendered and the Mark Lodges to come under the control of the Grand Chapter of Quebec. I know that the English Mark Lodge in Quebec, through its officers, positively refused to consider the matter, and a bitter letter was written by the W. Master (who has lately deceased), which was returned to him to see if he recognized or knew the writer, upon which an apology was made. I know that but for two Brothers (both dead) there never would have been any trouble and the whole thing would

have been settled years ago. This I know, for I was vested with full powers of the Grand Mark Lodge of England to settle, if possible, upon terms of peace. Quebec was willing, Grand Mark Lodge was willing, but the Mark Lodge at Quebec was not. Quebec offered to recognize the present and Past rank of all its officers and to raise the Mark Lodge into a Chapter.

The question of the recognition of the Mark Master Masons of Grand Mark Lodge of England is causing some Grand Chapters considerable annoyance. It has been recognized by General Grand Chapter and by many Grand Chapters. The recognition has no more reference than to the Mark Master Masons' degree. You can exchange representatives if you see fit or not, but you have and do recognize that the Grand Mark Lodge is the only legal body in England entitled to control or work the Mark degree. You sit in open Mark Lodge with a Mark Master Mason of England and thus you recognize him and Grand Mark Lodge.

Not finding any "burning" questions to be discussed," Comp. John W. Staton furnishes eighty-four pages of fraternal correspondence, reviewing the proceedings of forty-three Grand Chapters. He writes a good report, but seems to be a trifle vain in quoting what others have said about "our" (Staton's) report. It is all very well to have a good conceit of yourself, but it seems hardly right to print at the expense of the Grand Chapter the many kind words said about us.

Under the head of Georgia, Comp. Staton says:

"We are sure that Cryptic Masons made in Iowa would be received in Kentucky, Virginia and West Virginia."

We hardly believe this, and if it is so we are sure they would not be in any other jurisdiction in the world. They are clandestine. They are acting contrary to the Regulations of General Grand Chapter in working degrees not recognized as constitutional by the General Grand Chapter. See Report, 1826, p. 87, and Proceedings, 1853, Report Pro., p. 320.

Under the review of Missouri he says:

"The Grand High Priest recommended restrictions limiting the length of the reports on correspondence. The matter was referred to a Special Committee, who reported adopting the suggestion of the Grand High Priest. So now, we may expect, if Comp. Mayo profits by the

legislation, a curtailed report, and, if in full accord with the views of the G. H. P., won't be worth the paper that is used to print it on. It is far better that Grand High Priests and Grand Chapters keep their hands off of such things, and trust it to the good sense of him to whom the preparation of the report is entrusted, to shape what it shall contain ; and, if the Chairman is not competent to get up a tasteful report, just set him aside and get another.

" We have usually found in our experience that the persons who have so much fault to find with reports on correspondence are those who do not read them at all, and if it be true, as the G. H. P. says, that he is 'satisfied that a very small proportion of the members read these long reports,' then it is their misfortune, and shows that their aspirations go no higher than to get all the degrees they can find, including the Shrine, the Owls, and all the balance of the humbugs, and badges, with a heap of fuss and feathers, make as big a public show as possible, and then question any of them of the simplest Masonic history extant and he is as ignorant as an ass.

" Croakers on reports on correspondence may say what they please, but those reports have done more to enlighten those who desired to know something more than a little parrot ritual, without knowing the meaning of one-half they utter, than any other means known to reading Masons. Whenever our Grand Chapter attempts the restricting business on us there will be a 'holy kick,' we assure you, and some very plain talk. It is better to withdraw the reports altogether than to restrict them to mere bobtails."

This agrees with our views entirely.

Pennsylvania has fraternal mention. He refers to action of our Grand Chapter when "the Grand Treasurer, Comp. Thomas R. Patton, who has become famous for his generosity with his own private funds in deeds of charity, presented a resolution to donate \$500 to the Permanent Fund of the Masonic Home of Pennsylvania. The President of the Home, Comp. Louis Wagner, being present returned thanks thereupon."

He wagers a pewter button that our Grand Chapter will not accept the invitation of General Grand Chapter. You can keep your button, Comp. Staton, we would not want to win such a bet.

He speaks well of Grand High Priests Morgan's and Tennis' addresses. Speaking of our remarks on the Masonic dress of black, he says : " That is well enough for city Chapters, where great stress is laid on the manner of dress, but a High Priest would have 'a government contract' on his hands to enforce either of the suits as regulation suits in the rural districts as described by Comp. Meyer." Comp. Staton, we have some

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Chapters outside of our large cities, yes, in the most rural of districts, that outshine and outdo our city Chapters and full evening dress and patent leather shoes is regulation.

He says that Comp. D. Gale French, M. P. Grand Master of the Grand Council of Royal and Select Masters of Pennsylvania, was present at the Annual Convocation of Grand Chapter of Ohio, and had invited them to attend the next Annual Assembly of Royal and Select Masters, and says the invitation was rather "broad and sweeping;" so it is, and we can say that if they will come and can prove themselves legitimate Cryptic Masons they will receive more than a hearty welcome that would be both "broad and sweeping." But no Capitular Cryptic for us. With this report Comp. Staton closes his labors for a while until the Grand Chapter of Kentucky gets in funds again. May it be but a short time; we like your writing, we like your thoughts, we kind of like you all over, so write again soon, Comp. Staton.

Eighty-three Chapters, 2671 members.

William P. Coons, Maysville, Grand High Priest; Henry B. Grant, Louisville, Grand Secretary.

## LOUISIANA.

The Most Excellent Grand Chapter of Royal Arch Masons of Louisiana met in Forty-sixth Annual Convocation in the city of New Orleans, February 14, 1893, sixteen Chapters being represented.

M. E. Grand High Priest T. J. Heard delivered a brief address reciting his official acts for the year just ending. At the election which soon followed, all the officers from Grand High Priest to Grand Sentinel were chosen by ballot and were then installed. At the next day's session the new M. E. Grand High Priest, Comp. George J. Pinckard, occupied his official station and the other newly-elected officers were in their proper stations and places.

The Special Committee on Obituary reported a fitting memorial of the life, personal services and Masonic labors of Comp. Joseph Potts Horner, a resident of New Orleans, who had served as M. E. Grand High Priest of this jurisdiction and was at the time of his decease, January 24, General Grand

High Priest of the General Grand Chapter of the United States.

While the treasury of the Grand Chapter is not overflowing with funds, the finances appear to be in good condition.

This significant action was taken :

*"Resolved,* That the work of the General Grand Chapter is licensed for twelve months in this jurisdiction, and that the procurement and dissemination of the same be made the duty of the M. E. Grand High Priest."

The Grand Lecturer reports an increase in the work done in subordinate Chapters and commends officers for their proficiency.

The numbers of existing Chapters is eighteen ; net gain in membership 101 ; total number of members, December 31, 1892, 765.

This jurisdiction makes the recording of a mark a prerequisite to receiving the Royal Arch degree.

The report on foreign correspondence was presented by Past Grand High Priest Comp. Herman C. Duncan, for the Committee, and within the compass of thirty pages the proceedings of thirty-four Grand Chapters are noticed, several of them for two years.

Under Pennsylvania, liberal quotations are made from M. E. Grand High Priest Morgan's address, delivered at the annual Grand Communication, December 28, 1891. Paragraph III of the M. E. Grand High Priest's edict of February 16, 1891, which declared that "Jurisdiction" belonged only to the Grand Chapter and directed the action to be taken when application was made for the Capitular degrees to a Chapter *not* nearest the residence of the applicant, is copied and the reviewer adds :

"This matter is regulated by legislation on the part of most of the Grand Chapters, and where there is law, of course, it must be obeyed. But there is a good deal in the Pennsylvania position, and possibly it might be well for all of us to adopt it. A man should be allowed to choose his associates. He should not be compelled to select his neighbors for Companions if they be not congenial. Yet we are not prepared to advocate the adoption of it in our own jurisdiction without a good deal further investigation."

The rule referred to, briefly stated, is that an applicant is not *required* to petition the Lodge or Chapter nearest his residence. But, if the application is made elsewhere than to such

nearest Lodge or Chapter, the proper Masonic organization *nearest* the residence of the applicant must be first inquired of if it has any "Masonic objection" to the Lodge or Chapter applied to acting on the petition.

In the large cities of this Commonwealth, many business men find it more comfortable and convenient for themselves and their families to have their *domicile* outside the corporate limits of the city and sometimes of the State, yet their business, social and, oftentimes, their religious ties are *within* the city, and it would be more convenient and more congenial to be attached to a Masonic organization in the city, among friends and acquaintances, than outside, where they have little opportunity of knowing their suburban neighbors.

Where no principle of Freemasonry is violated we must make our laws so flexible as to meet the exigencies of progress. In this closing decade of the nineteenth century, when space is almost annihilated by rapid express trains and time by the telegraph and telephone, even conservative Freemasonry must be abreast of the times when and where the "ancient usages, customs and landmarks" are not infringed thereby.

Comp. George J. Pinckard, New Orleans, M. E. Grand High Priest, and Comp. Richard Lambert, New Orleans, R. E. Grand Secretary.

## MAINE.

The Sixty-eighth Annual Convocation of the M. E. Grand Royal Arch Chapter of this jurisdiction began its sessions in Portland on Tuesday evening, May 2, A.D. 1893, A.I. 2423, and closed the next day at 11.15 A.M. Forty-one of the forty-nine Chapters were represented. M. E. Grand High Priest Comp. Albert M. Penley delivered an address, in which the events of the year are briefly recapitulated. He properly refused eight applications for permission to receive and ballot on petitions in less than the required time. This prerogative of the Grand High Priest should be exercised only in cases of extreme emergency. He announces that the Grand Chapter of West Virginia had become a constituent of the General Grand Chapter. It was, however, conditioned

"That such admission to and membership in the General Grand Chap-

ter shall not alter or abridge the power now exercised by this Grand Chapter over the ritual used and degrees conferred under authority of this Grand Chapter."

If "all rights are reserved," what good results will flow from the amalgamation?

M. E. Grand High Priest Penley said:

"September 30, I installed the officers of King Hiram Chapter at Lewiston, in the presence of their ladies and invited guests. Their large hall was filled to completion, nearly four hundred being present.

"A fine musical and literary entertainment, followed by a banquet, added to the pleasure of the evening."

He gives a good report of Capitular Masonry in Maine—a large amount of work was done, and the year was one of prosperity.

The reports of the District Deputy Grand High Priests show, in the main, that the subordinate Chapters are prosperous, the Capitular work is satisfactorily performed, the records well kept and the finances receive due and prompt attention.

In the Sixth district, on the 12th of January, the officers-elect of King Solomon's Chapter were "publicly installed."

The report on foreign correspondence is from the pen of Comp. Josiah H. Drummond. He devotes one hundred and twenty-four pages to the review of the proceedings of fifty-one Grand Chapters, seven of which are for two years each. The work was skillfully and intelligently performed, and we regret we cannot assent to all his conclusions. But under Indiana occurs a paragraph which we take pleasure in reproducing and endorse the views therein expressed:

"The fact is that Masonry is *sui generis*; it has (or at least *had*) its own laws, and all attempts, natural as they are, to introduce into it ideas derived from the natural rights of men may be in violation of its original plan. The rights of a Mason cannot be determined from his rights under the *civil law*, or from his *natural rights*; they must be deduced from Masonic law or the usages of the Craft; still it is almost impossible for a lawyer to avoid the one, or the student of human government to avoid the other. We do not mention specifically the divine law, for the Masonic law expressly recognizes that as the supreme law of the Craft."

And under Iowa is found:

"If we could only appreciate that Masonry is a law unto itself, and

that ideas derived from other systems of government are rarely applicable to Masonry, it would be vastly better for the institution."

So say we. The *unwritten* law of Pennsylvania, requiring a service of two years in each station before attaining that of R. W. Grand Master or M. E. Grand High Priest, six years in the Grand Lodge and four in the Grand Chapter, added to the knowledge and experience gained in attendance at four quarterly and one annual communication in each year, exercises a wonderful restraining influence upon the officer in his early enthusiasm to work reform or change in the affairs of Grand Lodge or Grand Chapter. In jurisdictions where Grand Bodies meet but once a year and the chief officer is changed annually we need not be surprised to note changes in the ancient usages and customs, and that the old maxim that "Masonry is a law unto itself," is swept away as a cobweb of the past and an obstacle in the progress of young American ideas.

Again, under Iowa, we are constrained to approve Comp. Drummond's objection to the Masonic use of the word "quorum." That word has no place in the Craft, and under Kansas we endorse his view that in the case of the destruction of a charter a duplicate can be lawfully issued only by the authority that granted the original.

We are glad to heartily concur with Comp. Drummond in his remarks under Kentucky, that a Grand Chapter

"Does not derive its *right* to amend its Constitution from that instrument; but the right is inherent in that body; the provisions in that instrument as to the *manner* of amendment being *limitations* upon its power to prevent hasty action."

In this jurisdiction, where we hold that the Grand Chapter "is the only true and legitimate source of authority over Capitular Masonry," we commend you for your expression. Would that there were more ancient Freemasons bold enough to utter wholesome truths and deter or restrain our younger jurisdictions from uprooting the *inherent* powers of their Grand Chapters.

And under Michigan we can endorse the views of our esteemed Companion as to the discussion of the merits of a candidate *before* a ballot. Every member has a right to know the qualifications and character of any one who seeks initiation

and membership, and it is alike his right and duty to be assured that the candidate is both qualified and worthy.

Under Pennsylvania the four quarterly and the annual *communication* in 1892 (not *convocations*) of the Grand Chapter are noticed; also a number of items of business transacted thereat. The valedictory address of M. E. Grand High Priest Morgan is characterized as giving "a clear and intelligent statement of his official acts, visitations and decisions," and his remarks about the establishment of new Chapters, Comp. Drummond says may be "remembered with profit in all jurisdictions." In this connection it must be borne in mind that the great gaps in the numbers of our Chapters occurred during the virulent political anti-Masonic persecution. From 1758 until 1827 the *numbers* of one hundred and forty-four Chapters were dropped out. We have not examined the records to see if all bearing numbers up to 150 were constituted or not, but since 1827 only *fourteen* have ceased to work.  $144 + 14 = 158$ .  $276 - 158 = 118$  at work at the time Comp. Morgan's address was delivered. Six of the 158 were chartered between 1827 and 1838, right in the midst of the political persecution.  $14 - 6 = 8$  Chapters that have gone out since 1838. Can any Grand jurisdiction on the Continent show a better record? Eight Chapters expired in fifty-four years!

The address of the incoming M. E. Grand High Priest, Comp. Edgar A. Tennis is favorably noticed and his new departure in the appointment of the Committee on Correspondence mentioned.

Comp. Henderson's remarks under Colorado concerning physical perfection are quoted without comment. Under the same jurisdiction his statement about "a mark" is quoted and Comp. Drummond adds:

"This could not lawfully be done in Maine and most other jurisdictions; when a mark has been selected and recorded *it cannot be changed*. The reason given by Comp. Henderson does not seem to us to be a valid one. Were there only one organization, it might be permissible to change a mark by order of the supreme authority; but as it is, the reason given fails utterly to meet the case. When we consider that every Chapter is a distinct organization, and the Chapters in different States are under different Grand Chapters, an attempt to make this Pennsylvania law universal would be utterly futile, as it would involve a comparison of the marks of all the Mark Masters in the world; this

shows that it is utterly impossible to prevent the use of the same mark by two, if we include all Mark Masters."

Comp. Henderson is well able to take care of himself in any discussion pertaining to Masonic law, usage or custom and this matter is now referred to because he may not see Comp. Drummond's criticism. He has correctly stated the law of this jurisdiction, and if Maine has surrendered its sovereignty, Pennsylvania has not.

Under "Public Installations," Comp. Drummond quotes a part of our report under Missouri. We now quote the whole:

"We waive the modesty of Comp. Bates and say 'pointedly' that the installation, in public, of Lodge or Chapter officers is a violation both of 'Masonic obligation' and of an ancient landmark. If the Masonic organization is not sought by the profane without the attraction of the display incident to a 'public installation,' it had better perish. In Pennsylvania, where the written records of organized Freemasonry are the oldest on the continent, we adhere zealously to the ancient usage and permit no part of the work of the Lodge or Chapter to be performed in the presence of the profane. Beware of innovations. Permit encroachments, 'here a little and there a little,' and soon the foundations of our ancient institution, laid untold centuries ago, will vanish as the sands of the seaside amid surging waves. Missouri and others of our Western sisters may conform to the liberalizing spirit of the age, but Pennsylvania will remain faithful, even if alone, in preserving the 'ancient landmarks.' The profane who seek light at her altars must do so of their own volition, not stimulated by any display at a public installation, but 'prompted' solely by a favorable opinion conceived of the institution and a desire of knowledge, they freely and voluntarily 'offer themselves as candidates.'"

Our remarks related to "public installations" only. If the paragraph above quoted was to be recast we would see no reason for changing a single sentence.

The *installation* of Grand Lodge or subordinate Lodge officers in Pennsylvania never has been nor can it be now, for obvious reasons, performed in public. A formula for laying cornerstones, burial of the dead and other public occasions is promulgated by the R. W. Grand Lodge, but none of these ceremonies have been or are performed in *open* Grand or subordinate Lodge in the presence of the public.

In the *Ahiman Rezon* of 1781 there appears

"A sermon preached in Christ Church, Philadelphia [for the benefit of the poor], by appointment of and before the General Communication of Free and Accepted Masons of the State of Pennsylvania, on Monday, December 28, 1778, celebrated, agreeable to the Constitution, as the

anniversary of St. John the Evangelist, by William Smith, D.D., Provost of the College and Academy of Philadelphia."

Appended thereto is a "short account of the procession of the Brethren to and from the Church." The procession, formed in regular Masonic Order, included

"His Excellency, our illustrious Brother George Washington, Esq., supported by the Grand Master and his Deputy."

While the Brethren were properly "clothed" and the officers bore "the jewels of their Lodges and other badges of their dignity," no Grand Lodge was opened!

By express permission of the R. W. Grand Master, the Grand Lodge or a subordinate Lodge may appear in public procession, or a cornerstone of a public edifice may be laid by him or by some Brother by his dispensation, but neither a Grand Lodge nor a subordinate Lodge is opened *in public* for such a purpose. If either is opened, it must be closed *before* any *public* ceremonies are undertaken. So, my dear Companion, your idea that the practice of "Pennsylvania is an innovation upon the ancient usage in that jurisdiction as well as almost everywhere else" is not well founded.

When the fact that the proceedings under review report two public installations of Chapter Officers, one by the M. E. Grand High Priest and the other by one of his Deputies, the sensitiveness of Comp. Drummond on this subject and his anxiety to find a justifiable precedent in Pennsylvania is better understood.

He wields a fluent pen. His extracts from the various reports are well chosen and his criticisms are generally well pointed. We desire to follow him further, but time and space forbid, save that under West Virginia he quotes a paragraph from the report on union with the General Grand Chapter, announcing in glowing language the consummation of the union, and adds :

"We commend this to the attention of Virginia, Pennsylvania, Rhode Island and Texas."

The jurisdictions named, other than Pennsylvania, are competent to act for themselves without the aid of proselyting missionaries. Certainly we would not attempt to influence their judgment. But as to Pennsylvania, we do not feel the need of

a superintending body and are not inclined to surrender the sovereignty of our Grand Chapter.

There is much in Royal Arch Masonry in the "Pine Tree State" to be commended. With a population of 661,086 (in 1890) the Grand Chapter had, May 2, 1893, forty-nine chartered subordinate Chapters and four under dispensation, with a membership of 5231 = to one Royal Arch Mason for every 126.4 of population, a remarkable proportion. The finances are in good condition and a spirit of true fraternity seems to prevail. That it may ever be so is our earnest wish.

Comp. Albert M. Penley, Auburn, M. E. Grand High Priest, and Comp. Stephen Berry, Portland, R. E. Grand Secretary.

## MARYLAND.

Our near-by sister, the Grand Chapter of Royal Arch Masons of Maryland, held its Ninety-fifth Annual Convocation in the city of Baltimore, Tuesday, November 8, A.I. 2422, A.D. 1892. Pennsylvania was represented by Comp. Edward T. Schultz, P. D. Grand High Priest and Chairman of Committee of Correspondence. M. E. Grand High Priest, Comp. William H. Clark, in his address, extended his congratulations upon the peace and prosperity enjoyed by the subordinate Chapters, and commendably said :

"Whilst memory is busy rejoicing the heart at the recollection of the many delightful occasions of social and Masonic intercourse in our respective Chapters, let us not forget the Giver of all good gifts and graces for His bountiful bestowment of personal blessings during the past year, and let us approach our Holy Altar with feelings of devout gratitude to Him for all His goodness and mercy; and may it result in a sincere resolution to live more closely to the teachings of our beloved institution, that the honor, reputation and success of our Order [Fraternity?] may be more firmly established and the world at large be convinced of its good effects, as well as benefited by our lives and conduct."

This ought to receive universal approval:

"I have no sympathy in common with the idea, held by some, that honors should be worn easily, or, in other words, I am of opinion the Companion who accepts *any* position in a Chapter at the hands of his fellows should never be content to wear those honors without putting forth an *honest* effort and a *continuous* one for the advancement of the

interest and welfare of his Chapter. Otherwise, I do not believe that he is either bringing honor to himself or credit to the Chapter which has created him. If, after his election or appointment, he has determined that he will pursue a course of apathy and neglect, better that he should never take the vow of office. Better by far that he should never allow his own *small ideas* of greatness to obstruct the path of deserving Companions, whose efforts would prove beneficial in advancing all the interests of the Chapter, whilst his occupancy might and no doubt would prove decidedly disadvantageous."

Free-suffrage in the choice of the *elective* officers of a Lodge or Chapter is an ancient regulation, recognized and enforced by all modern Grand Lodges and Grand Chapters. The responsibility for the choice of good or bad officers of a Chapter rests upon the members thereof. Each member, before casting his ballot at the annual election, should ask himself and have an affirmative response from his reason and *Masonic* conscience, "Are the Companions I propose to vote for qualified for the various stations? Do they have the true interests of the Fraternity and this Chapter in particular, at heart?"

Men who look upon the stations and places of a Lodge or Chapter only as stepping-stones to social or Masonic distinction, should be relegated at once to the obscurity to which they properly belong. The sincere, earnest, devoted workers in the Master's vineyard are the ones who have earned and deserve advancement.

The M. E. Grand High Priest is glad to say that the financial condition of almost every Chapter is "very good;" and that the outlook for continued prosperity is "heart-cheering."

The following resolution was offered and *lost*:

"*Resolved*, That any Mark Master, Past Master, Most Excellent Master, or Royal Arch Mason, who for six months remains unaffiliated with a Lodge of Ancient Free and Accepted Masons, is, *ipso facto*, suspended in his Chapter; such suspension to be terminated by his affiliation with a Lodge, due notice being given thereof to his Chapter."

The action of the Grand Chapter is a genuine surprise. The *Lodge* is the groundwork—the foundation—of Freemasonry. A prerequisite to advancement to the Chapter degrees is that the candidate is a Master Mason in good standing. By the refusal of the Grand Chapter of Maryland to adopt the offered resolution, it is reasonable to infer that if a Companion loses his membership in a Lodge—say for non-payment of dues—

he remains a member of his Chapter in good standing. If the foundation (the Blue Lodge) is gone, how can the superstructure stand? In this jurisdiction an applicant for Capitular degrees must be a Past Master by service or dispensation, in good standing with the Fraternity and a *member* of a Lodge of Master Masons. If a Companion ceases to be a member of a Lodge of Master Masons for a longer time than six months, or should be suspended or expelled therefrom, he thereby loses membership in his Chapter. But, if such suspension or expulsion from the *Lodge* should be removed, and he be restored to membership in his Lodge, such restoration, *ipso facto*, restores him to membership in the Chapter as if no such suspension or expulsion had taken place.

The Maryland Grand Chapter elects the same officers as are annually chosen in this jurisdiction with the addition of a Deputy Grand High Priest, Grand Chaplain and Grand Captain of the Host. The *Grand Council* appoints all the other officers. In Pennsylvania the M. E. Grand High Priest appoints all the officers ranking after the Grand Secretary.

There are sixteen subordinate Chapters, with a membership of 1453.

The report of the Committee on Foreign Correspondence is from the pen of Comp. Edward T. Schultz. In eighty-two pages he reviews the proceedings of thirty-eight Grand Chapters, two of them for two years each, and congratulates himself that he has almost succeeded in condensing the work to the regulation limit. Under Pennsylvania (1891) he quotes freely from the address of M. E. Grand High Priest Morgan and liberally from Comp. Bates' report on correspondence.

On the subject of "physical disability," we think our respective Grand Chapters do not materially differ. Comp. Schultz doubtless knows the qualifications prescribed for initiation and membership in our Lodges. The Constitution of our Grand Chapter requires among other qualifications an applicant for the Capitular degrees to be "competent to perform all the work in the degrees he applies for."

The Grand Chapter of Maryland meets once in each year. The M. E. Grand High Priest's powers seem to be limited to presiding at the annual meeting, visiting the Chapters, issuing dispensations to subordinate Chapters, deciding questions of law and appointing representatives to other Grand Chapters. But these decisions and appointments are reviewed by a Com-

mittee and are subject to approval or disapproval by the Grand Body. Allusion has already been made to the fact that he is not invested with the power of appointing any of the officers of the Grand Chapter.

Our sister jurisdiction has just the same right to manage its affairs in its own way as we claim for ourselves in Pennsylvania; nevertheless it is a source of regret that our venerable neighbor has gone further than many of our young sister Grand Chapters in wresting from the M. E. Grand High Priest prerogatives that rightly belong to him.

Comp. W. Nash Young, Frederick, M. E. Grand High Priest, and Comp. George L. McCahan, Baltimore, R. E. Grand Secretary.

#### MASSACHUSETTS.

The Grand Royal Arch Chapter held Convocations during the year 1893, as follows: Quarterlies, March 7, June 13 and September 12; specials, June 8 and October 24, and an annual December 12.

At the March Convocation, the M. E. Grand High Priest announced the death of Comp. Joseph Potts Horner, General Grand High Priest of the General Grand Chapter of the United States, whereupon the Grand Chapter adopted an appropriate memorial of the deceased Companion. A suitable tribute was also paid to the memory of Comp. Jonathan Philbrick Folsom, Grand King in 1868, who died at Haverhill, February 23.

From the report of the Committee on a Petition for a New Chapter at Dorchester, it seems that this venerable Grand Chapter is not disposed to add to its roster of subordinate Chapters, unless good and sufficient reasons are shown for such addition.

Petitions had been received from several Chapters asking privilege to confer degrees at places other than those where the Chapters were located. The Committee to which these petitions were referred reported adversely, notwithstanding the representatives of the Chapters in each case presented facts favorable to the request. The committee said:

“The authorization proposed is in the nature of an amendment to the Charter, perpetual in its duration, and in our opinion ought to be granted

only upon very strong and urgent grounds, certainly not for the serving of a merely temporary purpose."

The Committee arrived at a wise conclusion and the Grand Chapter properly adopted its recommendation.

There is a too widespread inclination on the part of the younger and more enthusiastic Brethren and Companions to make an external display of Freemasonry, and we are more than pleased to write our hearty approval of the action of the Massachusetts Grand Chapter in prohibiting the itinerating of Chapters. In Pennsylvania each Chapter has a fixed place of meeting. That cannot be changed except by a process prescribed by the Constitution.

At this Convocation a District Deputy Grand High Priest was "installed." This is a ceremonial unknown in Pennsylvania.

At the special Convocation of June 8, held in Whitinsville, Worcester county, St. Elmo Chapter was dedicated and its officers installed. This Chapter starts with forty-six members.

On the 12th of September, after the opening of the Grand Chapter, M. E. Grand High Priest, Comp. Blake, announced in fitting and fraternal language the death of M. E. Richard Briggs, Grand Treasurer and Past Grand High Priest of the Grand Chapter and M. W. Grand Master of the Grand Lodge of Massachusetts. By the "In Memoriam" prepared by Comp. Bowen, and adopted by the Grand Chapter, we learn that Comp. Briggs died in his sixty-fourth year, and that:

"He took an active and abiding interest in everything that could uphold and maintain all that is highest and best in Lodge and Chapter, and was at all times ready to take an active part wherever the Fraternity stood in need of his services."

The Dorchester Chapter was constituted and its officers installed at the special Convocation held October 24. This Chapter had forty-two charter members. During the seven months it was "under dispensation," seventy-one Companions were exalted. These numbers would appall the Grand officers of some jurisdictions where they are ready to grant a "charter" on the petition of a minimum of Companions.

Work in the several degrees was exemplified during the day session of the Grand Chapter at the Annual Convocation, December 12. In the evening, M. E. Grand High Priest

Blake (who was just closing his third year in that station), delivered a concise, business-like, and intelligent address.

Returns from seventy-four Chapters show 12,742 members, an average of over 172 to each Chapter.

The report of the Committee on Foreign Correspondence is from the pen of Comp. Seranus Bowen, R. E. Grand Secretary. Within the compass of one hundred pages he faithfully reviews the proceedings of forty-seven Grand Chapters—several of them for two years.

Under Pennsylvania he quotes a part of the proceedings of our Grand Chapter at the Quarterly Communication, held March, 1892, and asks,

“ Does the Grand Chapter have to act on each case where a Companion wishes to propose a candidate a second time in a Chapter in which he has been rejected ? ”

We answer, No. If an applicant for the degrees and membership in a Chapter should be rejected, he can, after the expiration of six months from the date of his rejection, make a *second* application to the same Chapter. If again rejected, he can, after the expiration of one year from such second rejection, by permission of the Chapter that rejected him, make a *third* application. A rejection on this third petition ends all action by the Chapter in his case, but the Grand Chapter may, as was done in the case referred to, grant permission to present another petition.

Comp. Bowen quotes from the address of the retiring M. E. Grand High Priest, Comp. Morgan, delivered on St. John's day, December 27, and from that of the new M. E. Grand High Priest, Comp. Tennis, of the same date.

The proceedings for 1893, neatly printed, are embellished with a good steel engraving of the retiring M. E. Grand High Priest, Comp. J. Albert Blake, who, judging from what has been said of him by those who know him best, proved to be an attentive, able and popular officer. While we cannot agree in all things with our esteemed Companions of Massachusetts, the dignity and decorum of the Grand Chapter, its compact and thorough organization, its conservatism on certain important points, and the loyalty and obedience shown it by its subordinate Chapters command our admiration.

There are several topics mentioned within the pages of the

pamphlet before us that we desire to advert to, but limited time and space prohibit.

Comp. J. Gilman Waite, of Medford, is the present M. E. Grand High Priest, and Comp. Seranus Bowen continues as R. E. Grand Secretary.

## MINNESOTA.

The Grand Chapter met in Thirty-second Annual Convocation in St. Paul, on Tuesday, October 10, 1893. Most Excellent Grand High Priest, Comp. Isaac P. Durfee, in the East. Forty-five of the fifty-three Chapters were represented.

The Grand High Priest delivered a well-prepared and dignified address, a large portion of which was devoted to appropriate and touching mention of the dead of the year. The unusual number of four Past Grand High Priests of the jurisdiction, Comps. Smith, Getchell, Miller and M'Dermott, having been called to the Grand Chapter beyond since the annual Convocation of 1892.

This paragraph appears in the address :

"In January last I installed the officers of St. John's Chapter, No. 9, assisted by E. Comp. W. H. Lyon as Grand Marshal, and Comp. Rev. Dr. M. E. Shutter as Grand Chaplain. There was a large gathering of the members, with their families, and after the ceremonies of installation we listened to an able address by Comp. Shutter, which was very enjoyable to all present."

As we read of the indulgence on the part of our Minnesota Companions in the innovation of "public installations," we were in some measure prepared for the further one of the incorporation of Chapters. The Grand Chapter adopted the report of a Special Committee appointed to consider the advisability of regulating the incorporation of subordinate Chapters. This committee cited the opinion of the Committee on Jurisprudence, that the incorporation of subordinate Chapters is not prohibited or regulated by Masonic law, and that the advisability of the incorporation of subordinate Chapters rests in the discretion of each subordinate Chapter.

The Special Committee also said that, in view of the existing

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laws of this Grand Body and of the laws of the State, it is of opinion,

*"First,* That if any Chapter desires to become incorporated, it may do so without violating any law of the Grand Chapter.

*"Second,* That the question of the expediency of incorporation is now left to the discretion of each subordinate Chapter, and that it is not necessary or advisable for this Grand body to exercise any power or authority over such discretion or attempt to regulate or control it, except to require each subordinate Chapter, before incorporation, to decide thereon by a majority vote of those present at a regular Convocation, at which all the members thereof shall be regularly summoned."

What a spectacle ! Here we find a Grand jurisdiction, that ought to be supreme and sovereign, voluntarily surrendering a part of its rights to the civil power, and allowing its creatures —the subordinate Chapters—to pass beyond its absolute control. Be warned, Companions ! This surrender will sooner or later become a source of sorrow and regret to you. The Freemasons of Pennsylvania passed through the fires of political and Legislative persecution that our Companions of the new-born commonwealths know not of. Such tests confirmed them in the policy of conservatism that has ever prevailed in our jurisdiction. If the Grand Lodge or Grand Chapter of Pennsylvania had permitted any Lodge or Chapter to have accepted an incorporation under the laws of the commonwealth, the Grand Inquisitor General would have been overjoyed at the prospect of invoking the power of the State to summon the officers of the "corporations," with their books and papers, and publishing the contents of the same to the world. But we had no incorporated Lodges or Chapters (and have none now), but we had a courageous Bro., George M. Dallas—afterward Vice-President of the United States—Grand Master of Masons of Pennsylvania, who, refusing to be sworn by the Legislative inquisitors of 1836, declared :

"I am a citizen of Pennsylvania by birth and constant residence. . . . I am a member of the Society of Freemasons. It is more than twenty years that I became so. At that period the example of the wisest and truest of patriots, of Dr. Franklin, George Washington, of Gen. Warren, of Gen. LaFayette, and of many and dear friends, were naturally alluring. Public opinion designated the association alike virtuous, useful, and harmless; and legislation, which never discountenanced the connection, subsequently and expressly encouraged its continuance by signal marks of approval.

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"The Society of Freemasons is, in this State, strictly of a private nature. It is not incorporated. Like other voluntary associations, it is neither formed nor forbidden by law. Without, therefore, pausing to illustrate and enforce the remark that it would be equally Constitutional to investigate the evils of the Society of Friends, or other societies of religion, or societies of politicians, or societies of convivial gaiety, or of any of the countless combinations of partnership by which men strive to realize calmness of conscience, the enjoyment of life and liberty, the acquisition and protection of property and reputation, and the pursuit of happiness, I respectfully affirm to this committee my absolute conviction that the proceeding which attempts, under the forms of legislation and through my own agency, to pry into, expose, condemn and ridicule my personal doings and relations with this body of citizens is as utterly inconsistent with the tenor and terms of the Constitution as its expansion to similar cases would be fatal to freedom. . . . I was received by this association into its confidence upon my own application. I have been allowed a knowledge of the modes in which its members identify each other and avoid deception upon their benevolence. At a time when neither law, nor public opinion, nor my own conscience suggested a doubt of its correctness, I engaged myself to secrecy, and I cannot, without a sense of treachery and degradation which would embitter all my future life, prove false to my promise. Better, by far, endure the penalties of alleged contumacy, be what they may."

Such, in part, was the reply of the learned and brave Brother Dallas, when he was summoned by the Legislative Inquisition to testify concerning the evils of Freemasonry, and he was not alone in refusing to testify, but had many able coadjutors. Suppose that the Grand Lodge or Grand Chapter had accepted for itself or permitted a subordinate Lodge or Chapter to have accepted a legislative incorporation, this Court of Inquisition would have penetrated the inner recesses of both Lodge and Chapter.

History repeats itself. Minnesota has sown the wind and in due time will reap the whirlwind. Events move in cycles. Now we enjoy comparative Masonic peace. The time will come when the fires of Masonic persecution will be as lurid as they were more than half a century ago, and the extra-liberal jurisdictions will regret they had not followed the example of conservative Pennsylvania, where we hold that "Freemasonry is a law unto itself," and where both Lodges and Chapters are under the absolute and complete control of the proper Grand Lodge or Grand Chapter.

Returns from fifty-three warranted Chapters and three of the four under dispensation show a membership of 4329 on the 1st day of October, 1893.

The report on foreign correspondence is from the pen of Past Grand High Priest Comp. Thomas Montgomery. The proceedings of fifty Grand Chapters are briefly but intelligently reviewed, some of them for two years. He expresses surprise that in the report on foreign correspondence in the proceedings of the Grand Chapter of Pennsylvania for 1892, no mention was made of Minnesota. Dear Companion, if your report for 1892 was sent, it never reached the Committee, else it would have been most fraternally received, examined and reviewed. Don't you think that in your invaluable table of "Statistics of American Royal Arch Masonry" you have done Pennsylvania injustice in placing 1824 as the date of the organization of our Grand Chapter? Even Comp. Drummond, of Maine, who is not rash to admit the antiquity of Freemasonry in Pennsylvania, assumes that our Grand Chapter was formed in 1795, and Comp. Waite, of New Hampshire (Minn., 1893, p. 100), cites the "History of Freemasonry and Concordant Orders:"

"The Grand Lodge then proceeded to open the Grand Holy Royal Arch Chapter of Pennsylvania, under the immediate sanction of the Grand Lodge, on November 23, 1795."

All of which is confirmed by our written records.

The neat volume of proceedings, promptly issued and delivered, is embellished with creditable photo-engravings of M. E. Past Grand High Priests Comps. Orville G. Miller (1881), and Isaac P. Durfee (1892).

Comp. William P. Jewett, of St. Paul, is now M. E. Grand High Priest, and Comp. Thomas Montgomery, also of St. Paul, is R. E. Grand Secretary.

## MISSISSIPPI.

The proceedings of the Forty-fifth Annual Convocation of the M. E. Grand Royal Arch Chapter of this jurisdiction, held in the city of Natchez, Wednesday, Thursday and Friday, February 7, 8 and 9, 1893, come to us in a neat pamphlet of 122 pages.

M. E. Grand High Priest Comp. Phineas M. Savery, beginning his address with a devout invocation to our Great High Priest, then touchingly mentions the decease of the "General

Grand High Priest of the General Grand Royal Arch Chapter of the United States of America," and tenderly refers to the officers of his own and other jurisdictions, who during the past year were summoned to the Grand Chapter beyond. Further on he said :

" Several applications made for dispensations to receive petitions, ballot and confer degrees on applicants at one and the same Convocation. Some of these applications were very urgent and backed up by some of the strongest sticklers for Capitular law in Mississippi. Appeals were made that it was for the *interest* of the Craft, and the petitioners might have truthfully added *and for the interest of the Order of Knighthood, specially.*

" My sympathy as a Knight Templar was with petitioners for dispensation, but under the Mississippi law the prohibition is so positive that such dispensations could not be granted. One Companion wrote : *We intended to have that restriction removed at last Grand Convocation.* Nevertheless it was not done, and even now I cannot recommend a complete abrogation of the present restrictions. We do not think any dispensation should be granted *for the convenience of a candidate.* If the degrees are worth anything they are to be conferred for instruction derived therefrom, and not as a prerequisite to succeeding degrees or Orders."

He adds that

" Dispensations might with propriety be granted for the welfare of the Chapters . . . . actual necessities of the Craft."

But not merely on account of the "desires of candidates."

Grand High Priest Savery's action commands commendation. Ancient Royal Arch Masonry knows no "higher degrees" or "orders." Those who seek its privileges must conform with its regulations.

Occasionally circumstances arise that warrant the M. E. Grand High Priest in issuing a dispensation for the applicant to receive the degrees in less than the usual time. Such cases are rare. The prerogative of issuing a dispensation should be exercised only in emergent cases and never to oblige merely the *convenience* of an applicant.

Whenever and wherever ancient Freemasonry, that has survived the storms of centuries and seen kingdoms and empires rise and fall, permits itself to be subordinated to "higher degrees" or "other orders," it suffers voluntary emasculation and thereby loses both dignity and usefulness.

Among his decisions Grand High Priest Savery says:

"There is no law in Mississippi that requires a R. A. Mason to remain an affiliated Master Mason after his exaltation. Nevertheless, take away the foundation and the building is in imminent danger of a fall."

Well said! In Pennsylvania a Royal Arch Mason loses his membership by ceasing to be a member of a Master Mason's Lodge for more than six months, and the suspension or expulsion of a Royal Arch, Most Excellent Master or Mark Master Mason from his Lodge of Master Masons *ipso facto* works his suspension or expulsion from his Chapter and Lodge of Mark Master Masons. He must maintain his standing in his Master Mason's Lodge, and when that is lost all his *Masonic* rights are forfeited. Companions of Mississippi! Look well to the "foundation." If that is undermined the whole fabric must fall.

The cornerstone of the Masonic Home of Mississippi was laid at Greenville in 1890. The Grand High Priest, in a spirit of self-abnegation, writes:

"We are not wedded to any special plan of proceedings; have no objection to that of some Companions—that the Grand Lodge of Masons exercise sole control. We want the Home—the Royal Craft wants it. Let no stumbling blocks be placed in the pathway of its projectors. Strew flowers, if you will, in token of your approval, but just remove the thorns, for those who engage in this high and holy work should put off their shoes from their feet, remembering that they stand on holy ground."

Recognition of the Supreme Grand Chapter was recommended, and the Grand Chapter adopted a resolution to that effect.

M. E. Comp. Savery appears to have been thoroughly imbued with a desire to increase the efficiency of the Mississippi Chapters by educating their members in Royal Arch Masonry, in eliminating the chaff of ignorance and substituting therefor the golden grains of education. To a circular letter addressed to each Chapter, asking responses to a number of questions pertaining to the condition of each, replies were received from thirty of the forty-two Chapters. From the many good suggestions made in these responses he deduces the fact that all agree "that the work and lectures must be learned and communicated to good and faithful Companions," and that authorized instruction may be given he recommended the employ-

ment of a salaried Grand Lecturer. This recommendation was approved by the Grand Chapter and a stated salary was voted for that officer.

Comp. Savery, as Chairman of the Committee, presented the report on foreign correspondence. He briefly reviewed the reports of forty-one Grand Chapters, two of them being for two years. There are forty-six subordinate Chapters, with a membership of 1389.

Comp. J. K. McLeod, of Moss Point, was elected M. E. Grand High Priest, and Comp. J. L. Power, of Jackson, was re-elected R. E. Grand Secretary.

## MISSOURI.

The Most Excellent Grand Royal Arch Chapter met in the Forty-sixth Annual Convocation in the city of St. Louis, April 27, A.D. 1893, A.I. 2423. Comp. Reuben Barney, representative of the Grand Chapter of Pennsylvania, was in attendance.

In the address of Comp. John R. Parsons, M. E. Grand High Priest, he said:

"I am simply a plain business man, and do not feel competent, nor do I consider it my duty to deliver a lecture on Masonry.

"I consider the duty, of the Grand High Priest to be executive or administrative, to carry out the law, and not to make or to try to find some way to circumvent or defeat it. For this reason I have declined to grant dispensations to receive petitions from Master Masons who had not resided in the State twelve months, to ballot out of time, to receive petitions at special meetings, and to do divers and sundry other things which the law forbids, but which some Companions seem to think the Grand High Priest can do at his own sweet will, law or no law.

"I declined to grant a dispensation to elect a King in place of one who had died, as our law does not allow an officer to resign or die during his official term."

In a Grand Chapter governed wholly by statutory law, meritorious emergent cases cannot be met as in Pennsylvania where the Grand High Priest is invested with discretionary power. Among other things he can confer or cause to be conferred in his presence, the degrees of Capitular Masonry in any Chapter, or he may issue a dispensation therefor. It is rare that the exercise of this prerogative is called for, but it is

sometimes requested, and, in some cases of emergency it has been cheerfully given and gratefully and profitably accepted and acted upon. The reserved powers of our Grand High Priest enable him, as in a Court of Equity, to afford a relief that the statutory law does not provide. The same is true in the Grand Lodge, but there the Grand Master's prerogatives are still less circumscribed. In the long Masonic history of this jurisdiction no Grand Master or Grand High Priest attempted the exercise of any power not warranted by our ancient usages and customs. A conspicuous reason for this care and conservatism is found in our unwritten law that each elective officer must serve two years in a station before advancement. Attendance at four quarterly and an annual communication of the Grand Lodge or Grand Chapter, in each year, so thoroughly educates the advancing officer as to his rights, prerogatives and duties, that by the time he reaches the principal station in the East, he rarely, if ever, ventures on a policy or commits an act not warranted by the ancient usages and customs of the Fraternity. In jurisdictions where the Grand Chapter meets but once a year, and where the chief officers spend only one year in each station, the Grand High Priest becomes little more than the presiding officer of an annual convention, and it is no longer a matter of surprise that the Grand Chapter will continue to shear him of his ancient prerogatives.

Comp. Parsons mentions the death of Comp. Joseph P. Horner, General Grand High Priest of the General Grand Chapter of the United States, and he refers to a circular concerning the same that he caused to be sent to each subordinate Chapter in the jurisdiction. He also pertinently refers to Companions of other jurisdictions who died during the preceding year.

The decisions of Grand High Priest Parsons, one to five inclusive, are practically in accordance with our usages and customs. Number six has no application in Pennsylvania.

There seems to be a constant disposition on the part of restive Masons everywhere on this continent to introduce innovations. The latest development of this disposition was to bring into Chapters in Missouri "persons who were not Masons" to "assist in the music during the conferring of degrees!" Grand High Priest Parsons promptly issued an edict prohibiting such practices. Referring to this matter in

his address and condemning this outrageous violation of Masonic law and precedent, he adds: "and Masons cannot understand why ladies are announced on programmes as taking part in the conferring of Masonic degrees." Is it possible that the officers of any Chapters or Lodges in Missouri know so little, or care so little, about ancient Freemasonry as to be guilty of so flagrant a violation of their duty as the Grand High Priest's words would imply?

This paragraph appears in the Grand High Priest's address:

"There is one expense that it seems to me might be considerably reduced, not only without detriment to the proceedings, but with a positive benefit. I mean by shortening the report on correspondence. It has grown to such large proportions that it completely overshadows the proceedings proper, and is many times made up largely of mutual compliments among correspondents, or expressions of the personal opinions of the writers, oftentimes not in accord with the sentiments of the jurisdiction. My idea is that a brief outline of the doings of other Grand Chapters, noticing only important events, is all that is necessary. I am satisfied that a very small proportion of the members read these long reports."

The suggestions of the Grand High Priest, referred to a special committee, approved by it and also by the Grand Chapter, were met by an order to print one thousand copies of the proceedings. We do not know how these copies are distributed, but we are aware of the fact that the Committee on Correspondence of the Pennsylvania Grand Chapter did not receive any, and, if a Companion who became the possessor of one through the favor of a Companion in Missouri had not kindly loaned it to us, we would have been in blissful ignorance of the doings of the Missouri Grand Chapter.

We do not agree with M. E. Grand High Priest Parsons' idea of cutting down the report of the Committee on Correspondence to save expense. The report before us covers ninety-two pages. It reviews the proceedings of forty-three Grand jurisdictions, an average of a little over two pages to each, and is not too long. Referring to the Grand Treasurer's report, it is found that of the expenditure of \$5092.50 for the fiscal year ending April 27, 1893, only \$311.75 appears to have been paid for printing, which presumably includes the Grand Chapter proceedings and all other printing for the offices of the Grand High Priest and Grand Secretary—not a great sum. While Grand High Priest Parsons' criticisms may

have some force, we respectfully dissent from his estimate of the value of the report on correspondence. From the Pennsylvania standpoint, we are a community of numerous Royal Arch Masonry Commonwealths, and the more we know of each other, and the more we criticise each other for departures from the "ancient usages and customs," the better it is for all.

The Pennsylvania Grand Holy Royal Arch Chapter has not surrendered its sovereignty over Royal Arch Masonry within its jurisdiction, and possibly we indulge in greater freedom in discussing questions pertaining thereto than is allowable in those jurisdictions where the Grand Chapter is no longer supreme.

By an amendment to the By-Laws, the prerogatives of the Grand High Priest were further shorn, by a unanimous vote, of the appointment of:

Grand Captain of the Host, Grand Principal Sojourner, Grand Royal Arch Captain; and there was left to him the filling of the offices of Grand Lecturer, Grand Chaplain, Grand Master of the Third Veil, Grand Master of the Second Veil, Grand Master of the First Veil, Grand Sentinel.

And the next innovation will sweep the appointment of these officers from the Grand High Priest.

Such is "progress" in modern American Royal Arch Masonry.

From the Grand Secretary's report it appears that there are ninety-four chartered Chapters; ninety-three made returns, and that there are 6268 members.

The report on fraternal correspondence is from the pen of Comp. William H. Mayo, Grand Secretary. Pennsylvania is not mentioned, possibly because its report had not been received.

Under "Georgia," Comp. Mayo quotes the following resolution reported by the Committee on Ritual and adopted by the Grand Chapter:

"*Resolved*, That the Ritual be committed to the Committee, and they be authorized to perfect the same, have it *printed*, and submit it to the Grand Council for its approval, and when by them adopted, to be promulgated to the subordinate Chapters" [italics ours].

And pertinently adds:

"We seriously object—unheeded as our objections may go—to this breaking loose from the ancient moorings of the Craft. We solemnly

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protest—unavailing as our protest may be—against the violation of what we conceive to be a fundamental principle of Freemasonry."

You are to be commended for your brave words. We wish there were more reviewers experienced enough to note the gradual departure from the well-defined path and the constant attempts to violate the "fundamental" principles, and courageous enough to sound timely notes of warning.

Freemasonry is a society that has existed in some form from a period beyond the beginning of written history. When and where it originated many men have essayed to tell, but no one knows. It survived the political and religious conflicts of many centuries because it was a "secret society." It sought no governmental protection, and, being a law unto itself, insisted upon being let alone. It neither inculcated nor countenanced conspiracies against government or religion. It had its own sphere. To-day it is stronger than ever before. The dangers, if there are any, that menace its existence, are within rather than without. With "public installations" in some jurisdictions, and in others the putting of the ritual of the Chapter in print or in cipher, if you please, which ingenious men can *de-cipher*; the abandonment of the ancient plan of holding Quarterly Communications, in which the Companions were frequently brought together and thus fraternal ties were strengthened and Masonic light and knowledge disseminated; the chartering of Chapters by the civil authorities; the inroads made upon the prerogatives of the Grand High Priest from time to time, until every act of his is passed in review and approved or disapproved by a Committee of the Grand Chapter, and gradually his ancient prerogative of appointing every officer below the grade of Grand Secretary is being taken away and assumed by the Grand Chapter or Grand Council; as well as other innovations that might be noted, show the modern tendency to discard the pathways of our fathers, and violate the fundamental principles, which our Companion laments.

We Royal Arch Masons of Pennsylvania do not assume that we are better than our neighbors, but we do claim:

That we have not surrendered the sovereignty of our Grand Chapter, abandoned the ancient custom of meeting in Grand Chapter quarterly and annually on St. John's day, permitted any infringement of the prerogatives of the

Grand High Priest, indulged in any public installations, nor permitted the writing or printing, in "cipher" or otherwise, the ritual of the Chapter.

And we ask Comp. Mayo, Who has best kept the faith? Conservative Pennsylvania or her "progressive" sister jurisdictions?

There are other matters in this able review we would like to note, but limited time forbids.

Comp. Allan McDowell, M. E. Grand High Priest, and Comp. William H. Mayo, R. E. Grand Secretary. Address, St. Louis.

## NEVADA.

The Most Excellent Grand Chapter of Royal Arch Masons held its Twentieth Annual Grand Communication in Masonic Hall, Reno, on June 12 and 13, 1893.

M. E. Albert Lackey, Grand High Priest, presided, and four of the eight Chapters in the State were represented, and five Past Grand High Priests were present.

The Grand High Priest commences his address as follows:

"By the loving kindness of the Supreme High Priest of Heaven we are permitted to assemble at this our Twentieth Annual Grand Convocation.

"It is with pleasure I greet you and extend to one and all a hearty and cordial welcome.

"I congratulate you on the harmony and good fellowship which exists not only in our own jurisdiction, but wherever the Craft is dispersed.

"Recognizing the Great Jehovah as the Giver of all good, let us be deeply thankful to Him for this, as well as all other blessings we are permitted to enjoy."

His report is then devoted to obituaries and he says:

"To our sister jurisdictions, one and all, we offer our sincere condolence; and in doing so we mourn with you, for we miss those who have worked and labored with us in the past.

"Comp. S. C. Wright, M. E. Past Grand High Priest of this Grand Chapter, died at Carson City, Nevada, on August 1, 1892.

"E. Comp. William Oates, Grand Organist of this Grand Chapter, was called from labor to rest April 13, 1893. He was made a Mason in Eureka Lodge, No. 987, Australia; exalted to the Royal Arch degree in

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Gold Hill Chapter, No. 8, September, 1882, of which he was a member at the time of his death."

He next writes of the death of M. E. Comp. John Haviland Hubbs, and we feel that he should have more than a mere mention of his death in this report as he had the honor of being the Grand Representative of the Grand Chapter of Pennsylvania near the Grand Chapter of Nevada. Of him he writes:

"M. E. Comp. John Haviland Hubbs, Past Grand High Priest of this Grand Chapter, and M. W. Grand Master of the M. W. Grand Lodge of F. and A. M. of Nevada, has been called to pass through the inner veils into the presence of the Grand Council of Heaven.

"This sad event occurred in San Francisco, Cal., May 10, 1893, where he had gone but a short time before for the purpose of regaining his health. His remains were brought to Virginia City, and buried May 14, 1893, by the M. W. Grand Lodge of Nevada; R. W. John E. Jones, Deputy Grand Master, acting as M. W. Grand Master, and DeWitt Clinton Commandery, No. 1, K. T., George A. Morgan, Eminent Commander, acting as escort.

"Comp. Hubbs was a native of Canada, born April 27, 1852; was made a Mason October 1, 1873, in Percy Lodge, No. 161, at Ontario, Canada. At the time of his death he was a member of Silver Star Lodge, No. 5, and Past Master of the same; a member of Gold Hill Chapter, No. 8, and Past High Priest of the same. He was Knighted in DeWitt Clinton Commandery, No. 1, K. T., at Virginia City, Nev., September 1, 1882. He was Past Eminent Commander of the same.

"Comp. Hubbs was a good and true Mason in all that the word implies, and was ever ready to lend a helping hand to those in need. He will be sadly missed in our councils."

In regard to their work during the past year, Comp. Lackey says:

"A fair amount of work has been done during the year, and, notwithstanding the general business depression that has prevailed, we have not only held our own as to membership, but have made a small addition thereto."

He closes his address as follows:

"For the honors you have conferred upon me I thank you from my heart. It will ever be a bright page in my history that I can turn to as having been thought worthy of this distinction; and for the honor I shall ever have the kindest regards for the Companions of this Grand Chapter."

Comp. Lackey suffered from ill health most of the year, and for more than six months was compelled to be absent from the State, and a part of his duties fell on the Deputy Grand High Priest, John W. Eckley.

One of their Chapters sent a communication to the Grand High Priest, which was referred to the Deputy, asking for a dispensation to hold their meetings during the year at any time they might be able to obtain a quorum, and to elect officers, transact the business at any special meeting. They gave as a reason that a "good many members of their Chapter were railroad men, consequently are uncertain about their attendance." He was willing to grant a dispensation, leaving the date blank, to hold one special meeting, to elect officers, receive applications, and then another dispensation to hold a meeting to elect applicants and confer the degrees, but declined, and very properly too, we think, to issue the kind of a dispensation they wanted, saying, "I certainly want to help you, but I can't reconcile myself to think that a running, indefinite or perpetual dispensation would be the proper thing." His action was approved by the Committee on Jurisprudence and also by the Grand Chapter.

On the second day of the session the "Grand Representatives of the sister Grand jurisdictions" were received and "bade a fraternal welcome."

Comp. Frank Bell, Chairman of the Committee on Correspondence, reviews the proceedings of fifty-six Grand jurisdictions, and it occupies twenty-eight pages of the proceedings. He says in a half-page on Pennsylvania that Comp. Bates' report is a "grand one, if it is old when it reaches us." His report is very concise, and to crowd so much information as he has done in so small a space required necessarily a great deal of labor.

He has compiled a digest of decisions of foreign jurisdictions, from which we take the following, some of them being the law as it is in Pennsylvania, and some are not.

"A Companion becomes a non-affiliated Royal Arch Mason after the lapse of six months after the date of his dimit from the Lodge.—*Ohio, 1892.*

"In the absence of the High Priest, King and Scribe, the Junior Past High Priest present may open the Chapter and preside (since it is so specified in the law of the General Grand Chapter).—*Missouri, 1892.*

"A Master Mason who possesses the moral and mental qualifications

requisite should not be rejected simply because since he became a Master Mason he has lost his left hand, or is otherwise dismembered, provided he can comply with the substantial requirements of the ritual.—*Kansas, 1892.*

“A candidate should be without maim or defect of any kind.—*Texas, 1892.*

“A Brother who has lost his right hand is not eligible to the Capitular degrees.—*North Carolina, 1892.*

“The High Priest has no right to require a Companion, objecting to the advancement of a candidate, to state his objections.—*Nebraska, 1892.*

“Loss of the little finger of the right hand would not render a Brother ineligible to the Capitular degrees.—*Louisiana, 1893.*

“Membership in a Chapter is conditional upon good standing as a Master Mason.—*Missouri, 1892.*

“A non-affiliated R. A. Mason cannot prefer charges in a Chapter against an affiliated Companion.—*Mississippi, 1892.*

“The Grand High Priest has no power to shorten the time, and a petition must lie over one month.—*Missouri, 1892.*”

John W. Eckley, of Virginia City, was elected M. E. Grand High Priest, and Chauncey N. Noteware, of Carson City, was reëlected Grand Secretary.

The next Grand Convocation will be held in the Masonic Hall, Virginia City, Tuesday, June 10, 1894.

## NEW HAMPSHIRE.

The Seventy-fourth Annual Convocation of the M. E. Grand Royal Arch Chapter of New Hampshire was held in Freemasons' Hall, in the city of Concord, on Tuesday, May 16, 1893.

The M. E. Grand High Priest, Horace A. Brown, presided, and eight Past Grand High Priests were present and eleven of the twenty-two Chapters in the State were represented.

The Grand High Priest commenced his address by saying :

“Another period in the history of this Grand Chapter is closed ; another year of labor ended ; and we meet to-day to take account of the past, to enjoy the present, and to devise for the future. It is, I trust, with feelings of profoundest gratitude to that merciful Providence that has guided and protected us in the years that are gone that we gather around this altar this morning and recount blessings received and trustfully pray for the continuance of divine favor and protection in the years that are to come.”

He referred to the death of Joseph Potts Horner, General Grand High Priest, and the Committee on Doings of Grand Officers recommended that that part of his address be referred to a special committee. A committee, with Comp. Albert S. Wait as Chairman, was appointed, who later in the session reported a suitable minute, which was adopted and printed with the proceedings.

In their own jurisdiction they were very fortunate, and the Grand High Priest said :

"I have the record of the death of only one member of this Grand Chapter during the year."

Among the lists of Representatives he appointed during the year we find the following :

"May 6, 1893, Comp. Joseph Eichbaum, near the Grand Chapter of Pennsylvania."

He issued a dispensation for a new Chapter to be opened at Suncook, and on June 30 he constituted Carroll Chapter, No. 23, at Wolfeborough.

"Believing such services would result only beneficially, I have granted dispensations to the following Chapters to publicly install their officers: Union Chapter, Laconia, and the Chapter of the Tabernacle, at Newport."

This may be all right in New Hampshire, but it is an unheard-of thing in our jurisdiction. It is a subject about which much has been written, but all that has been written so far has failed to convince any one in Pennsylvania that it is the proper thing to do. But still I don't want to say too much, for I do not desire to get into a controversy with Comp. Wait about it.

The Grand High Priest apologizes for not visiting more of the Chapters, and says :

"I feel compelled to confess neglect of duty, but I trust no detriment has resulted thereby to the Chapters."

He adds further

"That all the Chapters have increased their membership during the year, and the aggregate increase has been considerably above the average."

In course of his address he says:

"No complaints have been preferred, and no questions calling for the decision or construction of Masonic law have been proposed during the year. In two or three instances the question has been asked if a Chapter would be allowed to assemble and work in a Masonic Lodge room in a part of its jurisdiction other than the place of its legal location. To such request I have given a negative reply. Several Chapters of the State have extensive territorial jurisdiction, drawing their members from quite distant Lodges, so far distant as to make it quite impossible for them to attend the convocations; hence this request. It may be best for this Grand Chapter to express itself in this matter."

We cannot help but add a word of approval to the action of Comp. Ames on this question, and the Committee on Doings of Grand Officers recommended that it be approved, which recommendation was adopted.

In conclusion, Comp. Brown says:

"I am to-day to resign the trust which two years ago you so generously committed to my hands, and it is with grateful feelings for the confidence thus reposed, as well as for the fraternal consideration shown me at all times, that I greet you this morning in annual Convocation, the seventy-fourth. From the officers and members of the various Chapters I have received many kindnesses, and from my associate Grand officers much valuable help has been rendered me in the discharge of official duties. To all of you, Companions of New Hampshire, I extend my heartfelt thanks."

From the report of the Committee on Chapters and Returns we learn that their membership is 3047. This is a gain of 158 over the number reported last year, and must be gratifying to the officers, for the gain the year before was only 91.

The amendment to the Regulations offered a year ago reducing the dues of subordinate Chapters was adopted. They now pay only twenty-five cents for each member, instead of thirty-five cents, as heretofore.

Memorial pages are set apart for Past General Grand High Priest Horner and Comp. John Wilder.

We do not find that Pennsylvania has a Representative near their Grand Chapter, unless one has been appointed lately.

The report of the Committee on Correspondence is by Comp. Albert S. Wait, and comprises one hundred and twenty-five pages, reviewing fifty-one Grand jurisdictions, of which nearly six pages are devoted to Pennsylvania.

It is a review of Pennsylvania for 1892, and gives an abstract of the proceedings, number of members, etc. It seems a little old to read of Comp. Morgan as Grand High Priest, and we trust our proceedings will reach Comp. Wait more promptly.

The report gives the same evidence of care and labor having been bestowed on it that characterizes all the writings of Comp. Wait, and is very interesting from beginning to end.

He closes his report as follows:

"The review we now submit includes the transactions of all the Grand Chapters of the North American continent, with the single exception of New Brunswick, whose proceedings for the two past years have not been published.

"A survey of the field over which we have passed shows the year to have equaled the preceding one in every particular of prosperity, and we can congratulate our Companions that the Masonic Fraternity has partaken in full measure of that prosperity which has characterized the world's progress in all things affecting its material and social welfare. While peace prevails throughout the civilized nations, harmony pervades the universal Masonic Fraternity, and its charities have widened and grown more efficient with the increase of its power and its influence. Some diversity of usage still appears among the several Capitular jurisdictions, in some cases such as could be wished might give place to better uniformity; but in no case, so far as we have observed, has anything like controversy arisen, and there seems everywhere exhibited among the Grand Chapters a disposition to so adjust themselves to known conditions that collision shall not arise.

"Felicitating our Companions upon the universal harmony and prosperity prevailing throughout our beloved Fraternity, we submit our work to their inspection."

The next Annual Convocation will be held at Concord, May 15, 1894.

William H. W. Hinds, of Milford, was elected M. E. Grand High Priest, and George P. Cleaves, of Concord, R. E. Grand Secretary.

#### NEW JERSEY.

The Thirty-seventh Annual Convocation of the Grand Chapter of New Jersey was held in Trenton, May 10, 1893.

M. E. Comp. Edward Mills, the Grand High Priest, was present and all the other Grand Officers except the Grand King. There were also present ten Past Grand High Priests and representatives from twenty-nine Chapters.

Among the list of Grand Representatives present we find Comp. Henry S. Haines, the Pennsylvania Representative.

Comp. Mills' address to the Grand Chapter commenced as follows:

"As the sun quietly and surely passes from sight below the western horizon, closing in darkness the beauties of the day, and on the morrow rises in all its glory and splendor, so with the close of yesterday passed away another year in the history of Capitular Masonry in our jurisdiction, with all its joys and sorrows, all its successes and adversities, and this morning ushers in another Annual Convocation of this Grand Chapter of Royal Arch Masons, fraught with so much of promise and profit to the Craft.

"I greet you, one and all, with a hearty welcome to this Thirty-seventh Annual Convocation, and with feelings of thanksgiving to our Supreme High Priest for the watchful care He has manifested towards us during the past year, in permitting so many to gather here, to renew friendships, to exchange our fraternal greetings; we kneel around our Sacred Altar and return our thanks and praise to Him for His watchful care over us and the many blessings bestowed on us.

"While so many have safely passed through the year, enjoying the blessings of home, brotherhood and companionship, some who have been near and dear to us in the past have fallen by the wayside. We have personally mourned this loss, and to-day, we, as a Grand Chapter, pause to pay our tribute of respect to the memory of our illustrious dead."

He speaks of the following Companions who have passed away during the year:

Comp. Elwood Connor, Past Grand King, died at Edgewater Park, N. J., January 31, 1893.

Comp. Samuel G. Bennett, Grand Tyler, born in Philadelphia, Pa., May 4, 1824; died in Trenton, N. J., February 28, 1893.

Comp. Stephen Cox, Jr., Past Grand High Priest, Bridgeton, N. J., died January 20, 1893.

Comp. Martin M. Drohan, Past Grand High Priest, died at Red Bank.

"This," he says, "completes the roster of our dead so far as I have been advised. 'Tis true the number is small, but it forcibly emphasizes the fact that one by one our beloved Companions are passing away and we are losing honest, faithful and intelligent Masons.

"'Tis the twinkle of an eye; 'tis the draught of a breath  
From the blossom of health to the paleness of death.'

"While we mourn our beloved dead, sister jurisdictions are passing

through the same sad sorrows, and to them we tender our warmest sympathies."

Comp. Mills speaks of his visit to Delaware, in January, 1893, to attend the celebration of the twenty-fifth anniversary of the Grand Chapter of Delaware and of the Grand High Priest of Pennsylvania being present.

He transacted a good bit of routine work during his year as Grand High Priest, and his report shows that he was kept quite busy.

Under decisions, he says :

" As almost every possible question that can be raised is covered by our General Regulations or Digest of Decisions, in every case (except one) a simple reference to the same has disposed of various matters referred to me for decisions. One request for a dispensation caused me to make the following decision, viz. :

" A Chapter cannot confer the Capitular degrees in any other place than its stated place of meeting."

This sound law was affirmed by the Grand Chapter later in the session.

The Companions are in a prosperous condition in our neighboring State, as the following shows:

" Companions, from the reports of the Deputy Grand High Priest and Grand Scribe, the Royal Craft are found to continue in a prosperous condition. Peace and harmony prevail and success attends the labors of our faithful Companions."

And no doubt this is accounted for by Comp. Mills' own work to a great extent too, for he says :

" I have personally visited more than one-half of our Chapters during the year and am pleased to confirm all that has been said by our Grand Officers in their reports as to the condition of the Craft."

Comp. Mills is the same companionable brother yet as he was years ago when we journeyed with him hundreds of miles, both of us on the same errand—to have a Masonic degree conferred.

Here is what he says of the social and fraternal features of Freemasonry :

" Companions, one feature in Masonry, I think, is not as fully appreciated by us as it should be—the social and fraternal features of the

institution. With us there is no distinction of position or rank. All meet on one common level. 'Tis this that binds us in one strong brotherhood. Our various symbols and means of recognition oftentimes attract men—perfect strangers towards one another—and the warm, fraternal clasp of the hand, the quick glance of the eyes forms an acquaintance which ripens into a friendship that remains so long as life shall last. If among you differences arise, reconcile them; if jealousies spring up, bury them, and all labor for one common end—to promote our own happiness and welfare and of every one who has a claim on our sympathy. Cultivate this social fraternal feature of our Order. It is the life of Masonry or any organization founded on the noble principles of charity and brotherly love."

We have been very free with our scissors in regard to the Grand High Priest's report, and yet we want to print the conclusion of his excellent address.

"Companions, the honor you have conferred on me has been highly appreciated. The labor has been one of love for the Craft, and I have endeavored, in the discharge of my duties, to merit the approbation of my Companions. The cares and labors during my term in office have been made light by the warm, hearty and cordial support of my associate officers and the entire Craft.

"I now return my sincere thanks to all for the uniform courtesy and hospitality extended towards me as your Grand High Priest. To one about to lay down the gavel there comes a sense of relief, to be relieved of the cares and responsibilities of office. And now, as I am about retiring from this high office and this emblem of authority passes from my hands to another worthy and true Companion, my prayer is that success and prosperity may continue with this Grand Chapter and all its interests. In all your deliberations may you be guarded by wisdom which cometh from above. In conclusion, 'may peace be within thy walls and prosperity within thy palaces. And for my Brethren and Companions' sake I will now say peace be with thee.'"

The report of the Grand Treasurer shows a balance in the treasury of \$2095.24, and the Trustees report \$1764.32, making a total of \$3859.56.

The membership in the State is 3033.

Comp. Henry S. Haines gave notice of an amendment to the Constitution as follows :

"At the opening of the Grand Chapter a box shall be placed on the desk of the Grand Secretary and remain there until the time of election, in which those desiring to place Companions in nomination for the elective offices of the Grand Chapter may deposit the names of such candidates.

"In balloting, those only shall be voted for whose names are thus deposited.

"After the second ballot, all the names except of those who have received the highest and the next highest number of votes shall be dropped from the ballot."

Don't nominate your officers, Companions. Let every man vote for his choice. Drop all but the names of the highest and next highest after the second ballot and it will answer every purpose.

Comp. Henry Vehslage writes the report of the Committee on Correspondence, and sixty-three pages of the proceedings are devoted to his report.

Nearly three pages are devoted to Pennsylvania, 1891, and Comp. Morgan is still Grand High Priest, in his report.

The report for 1892 of New Jersey (we reviewed 1891 last year) never reached the Committee, so as we have 1893, we do not feel that we are so far behind.

He writes on the questions of jurisdiction and life membership in regard to Pennsylvania, and thinks what Comp. Bates says about life membership "would be free from objection if carried out."

His report closes as follows:

"There remains but little to add, except to join in the general and justifiable congratulation upon the unusual prosperity of Capitular Masonry. In the almost universal report of accessions to membership, and the assurance that these additions are of a desirable class of men, it is reasonable to expect a more extended diffusion of the beneficent influences that have heretofore commended the sublime principles of the Fraternity. Appreciating the power committed to our hands for noble ends, we may rejoice in the fraternal spirit evident in all these reports, and hopefully look for the realization of the ideal which has stimulated to past endeavors and can inspire to future achievements."

The present Grand High Priest of New Jersey is Andrew J. Bale, of Baleville, and George B. Edwards, of Jersey City, was reelected Grand Secretary.

The next Annual Convocation will be held at Trenton, May 9, 1894.

#### NEW YORK.

The Ninety-sixth Annual Convocation of the Grand Chapter of New York was held at Masonic Hall, in Albany, on Tuesday and Wednesday, February 7 and 8, 1893.

Most Excellent J. Leavitt Lambert, Grand High Priest, was in the Chair, every Grand officer is reported as being present, nine Past Grand High Priests and the Representatives of one hundred and seventy-seven of the one hundred and eighty-six constituent Chapters, twenty-eight Representatives of Grand Chapters—the whole number present being two hundred and eighty officers and members.

The Grand Representative for Pennsylvania, Claudius M. Roome, notified the Grand High Priest that he could not be present.

To read of the Grand Chapter of New York reminds me of the December Quarterly Communication of our own Grand Chapter, and while we lack in the number of the Chapters being represented, the whole number of members in attendance is about the same.

Last year, New York had no notice in the report of the Committee on Correspondence of the Grand Chapter of Pennsylvania. Certain reports of Grand Chapters were sent to us to be reviewed, and we reviewed all that were sent. When the proceedings were printed we found, as an explanation introductory to the report of the Committee on Correspondence, a list of the proceedings that were assigned to each member of the Committee, and to our astonishment found that New York was in our list, as well as New Brunswick and North Dakota, and we never received the proceedings of either of these three Grand Bodies, consequently they received no attention from us.

But we have New York this year, and, as we picked up the handsomely printed volume of four hundred and thirty-eight pages that comprise the report of this Grand Chapter—and it is a *Grand Chapter*, with its one hundred and eighty-six Chapters, with 17,685 members—our thoughts went back to the time when we were a reporter for a daily newspaper, and when something big had happened we would turn to the managing editor and say, “I guess we had better have help, too big to manage alone,” and assistance would be given us; but to-night there is no one to appeal to for help, and we will have to do the best we can and manage it alone.

Comp. Lambert commenced his annual address as follows:

“We have exchanged fraternal greetings, we have reverently engaged in our impressive opening ceremonies, and now I cordially and heartily

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welcome you to the Ninety-sixth Annual Convocation of this Grand Chapter.

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"I congratulate you upon the harmony and good fellowship which exist not only throughout this jurisdiction but wherever the Craft is dispersed; upon the prosperous condition of our constituent Chapters, and upon the increasing interest in Royal Arch Masonry, as shown by the large number of brethren who constantly seek admission to our tabernacles.

"Recognizing the Great Jehovah as the giver of all good, let us be deeply thankful to Him for all this, as well as other manifold blessings, and let us gratefully exclaim, 'He is good, for His mercy endureth forever.'

"While thus cordially and heartily welcoming you, I do so with feelings of gratitude mingled with regret; gratitude that an all-wise Father has permitted so many to here assemble and renew the bonds of fraternal fellowship, and regret that familiar faces are absent, seats vacant, and well-known voices respond not to the call of their names.

"Early in our Masonic career we were taught that the cradle and the coffin stand in juxtaposition to each other, and that the moment we began to live, that moment also we began to die. Although during the past year the dread messenger has not frequently called for those who were prominent in our councils, yet, remembering that he regards neither age, talents nor condition, that he enters the palatial residence as well as the humble home, and in every instance takes those whom we love and honor, let us first of all offer a fraternal tribute to the memory of our Companions who have laid aside the tools of their operative labors and have gone to their reward."

He then gives a notice of the dead, beginning with

R. E. Samuel Jones, who died August 11, 1892, and had held several appointed positions in the Grand Chapter. He was an ex-Judge of the Superior Court of New York City and a son of a Chief Justice of New York State.

R. E. Ulysses Baker died at Hoboken, August 30, 1892. He had also held appointed positions in the Grand Chapter.

Then follows a list of fourteen more, some of whom were prominent in other branches of Masonry and had held distinguished positions of honor and trust in the State.

He pays a tribute to over a dozen prominent Masons of other jurisdictions who had died during the year, and closes that part of his address with a notice of the death of Past General Grand High Priest Joseph Potts Horner.

In regard to their relations with other Grand Chapters, he says :

"It is gratifying to me to be able to inform you that our relations with

the Grand Chapters throughout the world are of the most fraternal character. During the year, official relations have been established with the Supreme Grand Chapter of Scotland, which, I have no doubt, will have your approval."

Only two decisions were made during the year, the Grand High Priest saying that most of the inquiries were answered by referring the questioners to the decisions already approved by the Grand Chapter, to the General Regulations, or to the Constitution.

The first decision was that when a Brother makes application to a Chapter other than at his place of residence, if there be more than one Chapter at his place of residence, it is only necessary to have one Chapter act on his petition, as the Committee to whom it was referred, says, "the jurisdiction of each of the Chapters is concurrent."

In Pennsylvania there is no jurisdiction known except that of the Grand Chapter, and the question passed on by a subordinate Chapter under these circumstances is: "Is there any Masonic objection to Chapter No. —, acting on the petition of Bro. —?"

His second decision, which was reported on favorably by the Committee and adopted by the Grand Chapter, was as follows:

"A Chapter failed to hold its annual election in 1891 at the time required by the Constitution; but at a special Convocation, held four days subsequently, it went through the form of an election and installation, after which the Scribe of 1891 acted as High Priest, and the High Priest and King of 1891 in other official places. Several Convocations, at each of which all the Council officers of 1891 were present, were held and business transacted. I decided that while the election and installation held subsequent to the time named in the Constitution were illegal and void, and that the officers of 1891 were the only legal officers of the Chapter, nevertheless the Convocations held and business transacted while they were present were regular and lawful. I issued a dispensation authorizing the Chapter to hold an election, for which its members should be summoned, and at which the High Priest of 1891 should preside, and install the officers-elect; all of which was cheerfully done."

This was certainly a decision that would be pronounced sound law in any jurisdiction, we think.

Under head of "The Masonic Home," the Grand High Priest made the following remarks:

"Under date of July 18, 1892, Most Worshipful James Ten Eyck,

Grand Master of the Grand Lodge of New York, cordially invited this Grand Chapter and the Royal Arch Masons of this jurisdiction to be present at and participate in the ceremonies attendant upon the dedication of the Masonic Home and School at Utica, on Wednesday, October 5, 1892. As your executive, I replied to the Grand Master, acknowledging the courtesy and as cordially accepting his fraternal invitation. Circular letters for the information and instruction of the Companions were then issued, which are attached to this address as Appendices A and B. Although the day was bleak and stormy, the number of Companions in attendance represented nearly every Chapter upon the roll, and the interest thus evinced by this Grand Body in this most important event was in the highest degree creditable. The 5th of October, 1892, will always be a red-letter day in the history of Masonry in this State, for then our hopes of many years attained fruition, and we beheld this magnificent charity dedicated to the noble purposes for which it was intended."

The conclusion of his report is so beautiful that we feel that we must give the Companions of Pennsylvania an opportunity of enjoying it with us.

"In conclusion, I trust you will pardon a few words of a general character. Freemasonry inculcates its lessons through the veil of allegory and the illustration of symbols; hence the recital of the following legend will, I am sure, not be deemed inappropriate.

"We are told in this ancient story that three maidens had disputed as to which had the most beautiful hands. One had washed hers in the stream as it bounded down the rocks of the hillside; another had picked berries and fruit till her fingers were tinted as the rainbow; the other had gathered roses and other flowers till the fragrance of her hands rivaled that of the blossoms she had plucked.

"A decrepit old woman who was passing by solicited their assistance, which the three disdainfully refused. But another maiden standing near, plain in appearance and making no pretense to beauty, cheerfully granted her request and relieved her necessities. The aged dame then turned to the three maidens, who had refused her petition and said: 'The most beautiful hand is not the one which is bathed in the mountain stream, nor that which is tinted as the rainbow, nor yet that which is highly perfumed; but rather the one that does the bidding of a kind and charitable heart.' And as she spoke her staff was gone, her wrinkles disappeared, and as an angel of light, while pronouncing a benediction upon the benevolent one, she vanished from their eyes. The hand is a prominent emblem in our symbolic art. By it comes the fraternal grasp, bringing every member of the Royal Craft into close relationship. It forms the arch of union; it is the seat of fidelity, and the agent for the performance of those acts of benevolence incumbent upon us as Brethren. The legend recalls to us the great lesson of charity which was taught us after crossing the threshold of Freemasonry. It is an expression of the great thought which prevades all Freemasonry from foundation to capstone. Charity—the world's most precious boon, demands the subjugation

tion of all selfishness, a true consideration of the needs of others, and a constant loyalty to duty and the dictates of conscience. It points out the satisfaction which must attend the accomplishment of good deeds, and it promises the favor of the Supreme Grand High Priest, as our recompense. Take the lesson home to your hearts—never turn a deaf ear to the cry of the distressed and the destitute. Let our sympathy for those in need be so active that the waters of the river may be thereby converted into life-giving blood, when poured out of our cups of charity. Then can we claim, as our own, the signet of truth, and be deemed worthy of an entrance within the inner veil of the sanctuary and receive a welcome from the Supreme Grand High Priest in that better, happier world, 'where kindred ties are never broken.' "

In a letter the Grand High Priest sent to the Chapters in the fall of 1892, he had occasion to speak of the secrecy of the ballot, and he did it in words that could not help but be beneficial if they were read in every subordinate Chapter in the United States.

We feel that we are making a good many extracts from these proceedings, but his words on this subject are so to the point, that we must give them :

" The Constitution of the Grand Chapter requires that the ballot upon all petitions for the degrees, or for membership, shall be *inviolably secret*. Make it so and keep it so, Companions, for your harmony and prosperity depend upon its rigid observance. Preserve its spirit even in your *modes* of balloting. Placing the ballot-box upon the altar, and calling the roll or balloting in rotation, beginning at the northeast corner, are respectfully suggested as precautionary measures. Let none know how a Companion ballots, whether favorably or otherwise. Let each and all bear the responsibility of a rejection when it occurs. Let no inquisitive spirit prompt you to inquire who caused it, though the applicant be your most intimate friend. Let him who thus exercised his Masonic right and privilege keep the secret locked in his own bosom or he abandons his safeguard. Let his motives be a matter between his conscience and his God ; there leave it. Judge that some good cause for rejection, unknown to you, was known to others. Remember, you owe a *higher* duty to those *within* the Chapter than to any *without*, and be silent. Above all, let there be no protracted nor heated discussions, *in* or *out* of the Chapter, as to the merits or demerits of a candidate by which your opinions, and hence your votes, may be known ; it is un-Masonic. The candidate has placed himself before you upon his general character and qualifications, and there let him stand."

The following extract is from the Grand Secretary's report :

" Of the 184 Chapters making returns for the year, 112 show an increased number of members, varying in degree, the greatest increase in

any case having been 78; 58 Chapters report a decreased number of members, the largest loss in any case having been 35. In 11 Chapters the gain and loss of members were equal, and 3 report neither gain nor loss.

"Of the entire number of Chapters 52 have a membership of less than 50; 78 from fifty to 100 members; 21 from 100 to 150; 21 from 150 to 200; 4 from 200 to 250; 4 from 250 to 300, and 4 from 300 to 350; one Chapter has a membership of 384, and one of 610. The smallest number of members in any Chapter is 21."

On the first day of the session the Grand Chapter received a note from Governor Flower, and the action taken on it follows the note:

"STATE OF NEW YORK, EXECUTIVE MANSION,  
"ALBANY, February 7, 1893.

"*To the Most Excellent High Priest and Companions of the Grand Royal Arch Chapter of the State of New York:*

"*COMPANIONS:*—Mrs. Flower and I will be at home at the Executive Mansion (138 Eagle street), to-morrow afternoon from three to five o'clock, and will be pleased to see any of the Companions who may desire to call.

Fraternally yours,  
"ROSWELL P. FLOWER.'

"On motion of Comp. Huntington, the invitation was accepted, and, upon the suggestion of Comp. Day, the Grand Chapter voted to pay the Governor a visit to-morrow at 3 o'clock P.M., in a body, under the direction of the Grand Captain of the Host.

"FEBRUARY 8, 3 o'clock P.M.

"Agreeably to appointment, the members of the Grand Chapter assembled, to the number of two hundred and fifty, and proceeded, under the direction of the Grand Captain of the Host, to the Executive Mansion, to pay their respects to the Governor.

"The Companions were severally introduced to Mrs. and Mr. Flower, by whom they were cordially received and entertained, and Comp. Flower, in recalling past associations with the members of the Grand Chapter, made a brief but felicitous address, which was listened to with much interest.

"The Companions then took leave of the Governor, well pleased with their visit."

During the election of officers (the Grand High Priest was reelected), Past Grand High Priest James D. Pollard presided. In Pennsylvania the Grand High Priest presides himself, but the Grand King receives the report of the tellers for the office of Grand High Priest. In New York tellers are not appointed for each office as in Pennsylvania, and three tellers conduct the election for all the officers.

The question, "Is the Representative of a Grand Chapter

entitled to be known as Right Excellent?" was presented. It was referred to the Committee on Jurisprudence, and after wrestling with this important (?) question they reported that the regulations of the General Grand Chapter would not allow it. It's a pity. Certainly a Representative from a Grand Chapter to a Grand Chapter might be called Right Excellent. It wouldn't hurt. They have nothing to do and only appear in the proceedings. Personally we don't believe in the system of Grand Representatives unless some one will find something for them to do.

The report of the Committee on Correspondence consists of two hundred and thirty-six pages, and consists of a review of fifty-three Grand Bodies, and is from the pen of Comp. George J. Gardner.

In his Introduction he says:

"In a general survey of the Capitular world we find peace and harmony exist everywhere. That disturbing element, "Cerneauism," which at one time was the cause of no little confusion in some of the Grand Jurisdictions of Symbolic Masonry, but whose influence has been very little felt among the Royal Craft, has about disappeared. There are questions being discussed in a fraternal spirit by the various Bodies, upon which differences of opinion do, and always will exist."

Yes, there is no doubt of that and there is a good bit of time wasted over these little things, too.

In his Introduction he welcomes West Virginia, and pays his compliments to Pennsylvania as follows:

"We have cause for congratulation in the action of the Grand Chapter of West Virginia in becoming a constituent of the General Grand Chapter, thus gaining "a consummation devoutly to be wished." With our fellow-laborer of Minnesota we say, 'Thrice welcome, West Virginia. We will greet her as a sovereign princess as she takes her place in our royal family.' Now let Pennsylvania and Virginia fall in and close up the ranks, and thus present an unbroken front of our great confederacy. Rhode Island and Texas have long been *of* us—now let them be *with* us."

Now, Comp. Gardner, elsewhere in these proceedings you will find a full report on this question and we would refer you to that report for our answer. It was calmly and carefully considered in our Grand Chapter, and we could do nothing but decide as we did.

Nine pages of his report are devoted to Pennsylvania, and he is inclined to poke a little fun at us. He says:

"The 'Grand Holy Royal Arch Chapter of Pennsylvania,' as is well known, is so conservative that she moves along in

"The way our fathers trod."

"She admits of no digression and repels all attempts at innovation. Her conservatism keeps her, with but one associate, outside the General Grand Chapter. We admire her pluck but question her wisdom. Her ways, however, are 'ways of pleasantness and all her paths are peace.' She pursues the even tenor of her ways and does not seek to coerce others to her way of thinking. Better thus than to be at war with her neighbors."

Yes, "she pursues the even tenor of her ways," and her ways are to go on each year adding to her membership and also to her wealth, doing good in a quiet way and feeling very glad she is a conservative body.

"In her conservatism she retains the title of 'Communications,' while all her sisters use 'Convocations' as the descriptive title of their meetings. But what's in a name? We shan't quarrel with her for that."

No, of course not, don't quarrel; the same difference exists there as there is between tweedledee and tweedledum.

"Her proceedings show that quarterly 'Communications' were held on the respective dates of March 5, June 4, September 3, December 3, an 'extra' at the same date and the Annual on St. John's day, December 27."

Then he says:

"At the 'Quarterlies,' only the five elective officers are present, with District Deputy Grand High Priests, Past Grand Officers, and a limited number of representatives of constituent Chapters. At the 'Annual,' a full corps of officers is in attendance."

My dear Companion, if you look at the proceedings again you will find that it is at the *Quarterly* Communication in December that the officers are all reported as being present. That is the time of the annual election; but, of course, they

are present at all the Communications, but we can't tell you ourselves why they are only reported as being present at the one.

But we feel that we must apologize to the balance of our Committee for taking so much space in our report, and to New York for taking so much of her proceedings, but we find much in Comp. Gardner's report that is very good, and his writings have shown that a great deal of labor was expended on them.

He closes his work by saying :

"And now, gentle reader, we bring our report to a close. As we write the word *Finis*, we are reminded of the many pleasant though weary hours we have spent with our distant Companions in reviewing their labors and in spirit communing with our fellow-reporters. We always give a sigh of relief when we reach the end of our reportorial journey. Our responsibilities in that direction have, at least for the time being, ceased. The demand for 'copy' is hushed, and the result of our protracted labor will soon be scattered broadcast over the extended field occupied by the Royal Craft. Will it be appreciated for the toil it has cost? or will it be thrown carelessly into the waste basket or consigned to the tender mercies of the owner of the junk shop?

"With these thoughts in our mind, we launch our barque on the turbulent waters, hoping it may steer itself safely between the Scylla of criticism on the one side and the Charybdis of prejudice and indifference on the other, trusting that 'like bread cast upon the waters,' it 'will return to us after many days,' freighted with the charitable approval of our brethren of the 'Guild' and the Companions whom we serve."

The proceedings are embellished with portraits of Past Grand High Priests David F. Day, James F. Pollard and Richard H. Parker.

There are also printed two orations by Rev. John Frederic Ernst, Grand Chaplain—one delivered before the Grand Chapter, January 21, 1800, and the other, February 3, 1801. Also an address delivered before the Grand Chapter, February 8, 1893, by Rev. James Byron Murray, Grand Chaplain.

There are also given a dozen pages of General Regulations and Decisions and many tabular statements that are very interesting.

M. E. J. Leavitt Lambert and R. E. Christopher G. Fox were elected respectively Grand High Priest and Grand Secretary.

## NORTH CAROLINA.

The Grand Holy Royal Arch Chapter of North Carolina convened in its Forty-fifth Annual Convocation at Masonic Hall, Tarboro, May 9, 1893, at 8 o'clock, and a session was held on the 10th, both in the morning and evening.

Twelve Chapters were represented.

The Grand High Priest, Daniel P. Mast, delivered his address, commencing as follows:

"At the close of another Masonic year, through the kindness of an all-wise Providence, we are permitted again to convene as a Grand Body for the purpose of consulting together and adopting such measures as in our judgment will tend most to the promotion and advancement of Capitular Masonry in this Grand Jurisdiction.

"The adoption by the Grand Chapter some years ago of the itinerating system of holding our annual meetings was, in my estimation, a wise move, and has contributed largely to the pleasures of these occasions, affording as it does so many opportunities of renewing old and forming new acquaintances which otherwise we could not enjoy."

There was not very much business transacted at this Convocation of interest outside of their own jurisdiction, so we give the following extract from the address of the Grand High Priest showing the general condition of Capitular Masonry in North Carolina:

"I am happy to state that peace, prosperity and harmony continue to prevail throughout this Grand Jurisdiction and that our fraternal relations with other Grand Jurisdictions have been pleasant and nothing has transpired to mar the peaceful relations heretofore existing.

"No questions of importance requiring a decision at my hands have been presented to me during my official term. The duties of the office have in no sense been irksome or burdensome, but on the other hand have been a pleasure, so far as I have been able to discharge them. I had intended from the beginning to visit a large number of our Chapters during the past year, and especially those in the western part of the State, where, with but few exceptions, it was badly needed; but I regret to say that, on account of absence from home and other reasons, which I may hereafter mention, my good resolutions were not carried out and I have done but little along that line.

"I am gratified to state that the general outlook for the future of Royal Arch Masonry throughout this Grand Jurisdiction is very promising. While the Craft during the year just ended have not been altogether as

prosperous as we could have desired, it may be accounted for partly in the fact that during this period a great National and State election, of unusual interest to all of us, has taken place, and we all know from experience that the excitement incident to such occasions, for the time being at least, is anything but favorable to a proper interest in Masonry. And we might add further that we think it partly on account of the fact that the crippled condition of our finances has impeded the carrying out fully of certain provisions of the Grand Chapter for reviving and extending Royal Arch Masonry throughout the State. The former of these difficulties has passed away and peace and quiet reign supreme within our borders ; but the other difficulty, that of a bankrupt treasury, still remains, staring us squarely in the face."

Among the special dispensations granted was one that we believe, had we been the Grand High Priest, we would have left the reason for granting out of our report:

" July 18, 1892, to Oxford Chapter, No. 8, to act on petitions of five Master Masons and confer degrees without the usual delay, for the purpose of establishing a Commandery of K. T. Oxford.

The proceedings have as a frontispiece a portrait of Donald W. Bain, Grand Secretary, who died after the last Convocation of the Grand Chapter, but before the proceedings were published and we mentioned the fact of his death in this report last year.

The present Grand Secretary in his report says of Comp. Bain, in writing of the illustrious dead :

" Among the lamented dead there is first from our own Grand Jurisdiction our late Grand Secretary, D. W. Bain. It is impossible for me to put thoughts into language expressive of the loss I personally feel in the death of this good and true man. For years, as we all know, he bravely suffered from a disease which, however for a time resisted, bore him at last to his inevitable fate. It is said that no great man dies but another rises to fill his place. In a measure this is probably true, but who in our midst would assume that he could fill fully the place of Bain. His name was a household word. Modest, retiring, never thrusting himself upon the public gaze, his intrinsic merit forced him to the front, and in all public as well as private relations he was always true to his trust. We can feel, but not adequately express our sense of loss."

The Grand Secretary closes the report of his work during the year as follows, and his action is certainly to be commended, and shows that he has at heart the good of the Grand Chapter.

His only compensation consisted of a vote of thanks from the Grand Chapter:

"In conclusion, Companions, I desire to say that the services I have rendered in this capacity are to you a free-will offering. There has been some embarrassment growing out of the peculiar situation in which the office was left; some mistakes in the printed proceedings have occurred, all of which under the circumstances were, it seems, unavoidable."

The Grand King, Comp. Francis M. Moye, was unable to be present on account of serious illness and a message of sympathy was sent to him.

The report of the Committee on Correspondence was by Comp. James Southgate, and comprised a review of forty-one Grand Jurisdictions, taking seventy-seven pages of the proceedings and is an interesting document.

Pennsylvania is not noticed in the report, and he gives the following paragraph in closing which explains his failure to have a complete review of the different Grand Chapters.

"Your Committee has received the following proceedings and regrets this report must close without Indian Territory, Kansas, North Dakota, Pennsylvania, South Dakota and West Virginia. These may have been sent to the office of our late Grand Secretary and misplaced or lost, as he was an invalid for several months prior to his death. We wrote, however, to each Grand Secretary, but up to this date no answer has been received. We take the liberty of appropriating Comp. Drummond's admirable table of statistics, which though not so full as some others, perhaps, yet it condenses in small space all that is necessary to show the numerical strength of Capitular Masonry in this country. We are pleased to note that harmony and good will prevail, except, perhaps, the States of Rhode Island and Texas are still in hostility to the General Grand Chapter. West Virginia has returned to her allegiance amid the rejoicings of her sisters throughout the entire jurisdiction of the General Grand Chapter. We trust the others may soon follow her example."

The next Convocation, the forty-sixth, will be held in Charlotte, on May 10, 1894.

Francis M. Moye, of Moyton, was elected Grand High Priest, and Horace H. Munson, of Wilmington, Grand Secretary.

## NORTH DAKOTA.

The Third Annual Grand Convocation of the Grand Chapter of Royal Arch Masons of North Dakota was held at Grand Forks, on June 29 and 30, 1892.

The Grand High Priest, Comp. Francis Ingalls, delivered his address and commenced it as follows:

"By the blessing of Divine Providence we are again assembled in annual Convocation, to look back over the past and to transact such business as may come before us.

"The past year has been one of unusual prosperity to the people of our State, and its beneficial results have been felt, not only by each subordinate Chapter, but also, I am pleased to say, by our Grand Chapter; and in looking over this assembly we see new faces, representing new Chapters which have been organized since our last Convocation.

"Let us, therefore, as we kneel around the sacred altar to offer up our devotions, return our most heartfelt thanks to the great "I Am" for the many blessings bestowed upon us, invoke His protection and guidance in the future, and humbly pray that in our labors here we may be governed by that same fraternal feeling of charity and brotherly love which has characterized all our Convocations in the past. And being governed by that spirit, we may rest assured that the work we do to-day will stand the most severe test of the Grand Overseer's square."

He paid a touching tribute to the memory of Past Grand Chaplain William T. Currie, who was drowned at Grand Forks, August 17, 1891, while trying to save the lives of others.

He issued dispensations for two new Chapters, one at Devil's Lake and one at Grafton. Later in the session they were granted charters and said the committee to whom the matter was referred:

"We feel that we would be derelict in our duty if we did not compliment these two Chapters upon the excellent reports which they have furnished while acting under dispensations."

He had the following encouraging note about the finances of the Grand Chapter:

"It will be gratifying to you all to learn that our financial condition is

so much improved that we have been able to liquidate all of our past indebtedness."

There are nine Chapters in the State.

From the report of the Grand Secretary we make the following extracts:

"I am happy to state that all constituent Chapters have made full and complete and correct returns, by which we glean the following:

"There have been 120 candidates advanced; 121 passed; 112 received and acknowledged; 121 exalted; 19 admitted; 25 dimitted; 1 suspended; none expelled; 3 died, making a total increase of 111, leaving a total membership of 522.

"The returns show the total receipts to be \$915.50 and the disbursements have been \$604.55, leaving a balance in the treasury of \$479.85. An itemized statement I submit and ask it to be referred to the Committee on Finance for their fraternal consideration."

The report of the Committee on Correspondence is by Comp. Thomas J. Wilder, and we publish one-third of the report, as follows:

"Your Committee beg leave to report, that as the funds of this Grand Chapter are not of sufficient magnitude to warrant our reviewing each Grand Chapter separately, thereby making quite an expense in the shape of printer's bills; that in saving this item to the treasury, we are enabling this Grand Chapter the sooner to have a full report.

"We are egotistical enough to believe that this will be regretted by sister Grand Chapters, and will be a loss to the Royal Craft of this jurisdiction, not because we would say anything either entertaining or amusing, but that we might find many good things in other proceedings of benefit to you. We feel that you, Companions, are losers in one way and gainers in a financial view.

"We have carefully read many of the proceedings of sister Grand Chapters and have often wished that you could have been with us as we traveled through the sometimes rough and rugged path, stopping at each green spot to rest and refresh ourselves, and again plodding on."

All right, Comp. Wilder; in a year or two we will expect more of a report than this from you and hope we will not be disappointed.

Comp. Thomas J. Wilder was reelected Grand Secretary, and as these proceedings are nearly two years old we suppose that ere this some one has been elected Grand High Priest in place of Comp. Leonard W. Gammons.

## NOVA SCOTIA.

The Twenty-third Annual Convocation of the Grand Chapter of Royal Arch Masons of Nova Scotia (with jurisdiction over the Provinces of Nova Scotia, Prince Edward Island and Newfoundland) was held at Amherst, June 7, 1892.

Eight Grand Officers were absent, but ten of the twelve subordinate Chapters were represented.

The town of Amherst, where the Convocation was held, does not have a Chapter.

In opening his address, M. E. Comp. William Crowe said:

"It is with much pleasure that I welcome you to the Twenty-third Annual Grand Convocation of the Royal Arch Masons of this jurisdiction; and although it transpires that we assemble in a locality where there does not exist a Chapter of Royal Arch Masons, I do not for a moment doubt the good intentions of our Brethren of the Blue, in this good town of Amherst, to make our visit here a pleasant and agreeable one.

"I shall not preface my remarks by an attempted disquisition on Masonry, either original or copied, but will at once proceed to inform you of my official acts, and the necessary routine of the duties of the office for the past year, after bespeaking your lenient consideration of any apparent neglect of duty, in view of the fact that when I left my home for Yarmouth to attend the last Annual Convocation, I had not the faintest idea of being honored with the exalted position to which you were pleased to call me, as I knew then that I could not possibly visit officially all the Chapters in the jurisdiction."

Among the notices of the dead the Grand High Priest referred to R. E. Comp. George T. Smithers, late Grand Secretary, and R. E. Comp. Samuel Porter, Grand Organist.

He also said:

"I have been asked for an official decision on the question—

"Must an applicant for Chapter degrees be a subscribing member of a Blue Lodge?"

"I have no hesitation in answering—Certainly he must.

"Section 19 of our By-Laws, pertaining to Subordinate Chapters, distinctly states that 'his name, residence, *and Lodge*, shall have been, etc.' Now, if he is a dimitted member, he has *no Lodge*; he is Masonically dead, and cannot be revived except through his Lodge. *Living* connection with the fundamental degrees of the Order ought surely to be a necessary qualification of advancement to higher life. Moreover, the application for membership contains the clause, 'I am a subscribing

member of —— Lodge.' Nothing ambiguous about that. And although the propriety of going outside of *Blue* or *Red* Masonry for examples or precedents may be questioned, surely if the Orders of Knights Templar and the Ancient and Accepted Scottish Rite insist not only on applicants being connected with the primary degrees, but retaining such connection, it becomes us who are, in this jurisdiction at least, supposed to be more intimately associated with the Master Mason Lodges, to be careful of any step that would tend to disintegration."

The Committee on General Purposes in their report had the following in regard to the condition of Capitular Masonry :

"They have great pleasure in stating that the condition of the Royal Craft in this jurisdiction is generally satisfactory ; that the increase in membership for the Masonic year just closed is twenty-six.

"The abstract of the returns which have been received from the whole of the Chapters gives detailed particulars. Some of the Chapters have made a marked increase in their work and membership, others have not done so well in this respect, but the outlook appears bright, and indicates a renewed interest in some who have been quiet for some time past, and hopes are entertained that the coming year will show good results."

The Grand Secretary reported :

"I am happy to state that every Chapter in the jurisdiction has made its returns and paid in the dues and fees for the year, except two, one paying the dues and one not having forwarded any money as yet."

There being no Chapter in Amherst, the Blue Lodge Masons looked after the entertainment of the members of the Grand Chapter, and gave them a conversazione, and the following note in regard to it appears in the proceedings :

"The Worshipful Master of Acacia Lodge invited Grand Chapter to be present at a conversazione, to be held in the halls of the Young Men's Christian Association to-morrow evening at 8 o'clock..

"On motion the invitation was accepted, and the M. E. Grand High Priest kindly permitted the Companions to wear Royal Arch clothing on the occasion."

It looks a little as though it was to be an advertisement of Royal Arch Masonry with a view of establishing a Chapter. But they believe more in wearing regalia in public than we do here in Pennsylvania. Do the officers have robes in Nova Scotia ? Did they wear them at the conversazione ?

The next Convocation was held at Halifax, in June, 1893, and M. E. Comp. William B. Alley, of Truro, was elected Grand High Priest, and Alexander Ross, of Halifax, Grand Secretary.

## OREGON.

The Thirty-third Annual Grand Convocation of the Grand Chapter of Oregon was held in Portland, on Monday and Tuesday, June 12 and 13, 1893.

M. E. George E. Chamberlain, the Grand High Priest, presided, and every Grand Officer was reported present, and all but two of the twenty-five Chapters were represented, and five Past High Priests were present.

The Grand High Priest in opening his address said :

" To those of us who have assembled here to-day, it seems but a very short time since last we met in grand Convocation. When, however, we glance over the history of that brief period, we find it pregnant with many great changes, not only in matters purely Masonic, but in affairs of government as well, and thus more fully realize that we cannot reckon time by the furrows that may or may not have been carved on our own brows. In the narrow interval which separates us from the last annual Convocation, a great political contest has been waged and the reins of government transferred from the hands of one party to another. Though that contest was bitter—though it was waged between giants—to the credit of American citizenship be it said that when the smoke of battle cleared away there disappeared with it every feeling of bitterness which had been temporarily engendered by political strife, and to-day the great national pulse beats as one and the national heart throbs with pride that we are all citizens of one common country. In other lands than ours in that short interval thrones have been overturned and others have trembled on their foundations. But the changes that have taken place in Masonry have been wrought without revolution. 'Hers are the ways of pleasantness and all her paths are peace.' Upward and onward in solid phalanx moves the great Masonic host, engaged in 'deeds of charity and pure beneficence.' From every quarter come the glad tidings that Masonry, both Symbolic and Capitular, is prospering. Yet there are other changes in this and in other jurisdictions at thought of which we pause and shed a tear. Many of those who were with us one year ago to-day have answered the last roll call and have gone to their eternal sleep.

" How can I better begin the report of the year just closed than by mentioning the names of those of our beloved Companions who have completed the designs of life's trestle board and have gone to receive the reward that awaits the faithful Craftsman?"

Among his list of dead we find reported:

Comp. Thomas McFadden, who died suddenly November 29, 1892. He was the first Grand Secretary of their Grand Chapter, and served eighteen years on the Committee on Correspondence.

Comp. Francis Berien Dunn died suddenly July 20, 1892. He was the Grand Representative of North Carolina.

Comp. Christopher Taylor, 33°, died June 24, 1892. He was a Past Grand Master and Past Grand Commander of Oregon.

Comp. J. B. Lee, a Past Grand High Priest of the Grand Chapter.

In addition to those named above is a list of deaths in their subordinate Chapters, followed by a number of prominent Masons from other jurisdictions.

Dispensations were granted during the year for two new Chapters, and later in the session warrants were granted.

One Chapter was constituted.

A number of applications for the opinion of the Grand High Priest was made, and they were answered, he said, by a reference to former decisions or the Constitution, excepting in one case as follows:

"I have had many applications from Chapters asking my opinion upon various matters, but in each instance a reference to former decisions or the Constitution, By-Laws or standing resolutions was a sufficient answer.

"Arago Chapter, No. 22, desired my opinion as to whether it could exalt a Brother with two substitutes. In reply, I advised the Chapter as follows:

"The rule in the different Grand jurisdictions is not uniform on the subject. It has been customary in this State to exalt a candidate with two substitutes, and until that custom is changed by positive enactment I will adhere to it."

"If a different rule prevailed, exaltations in the remote Chapters would of necessity be very rare."

In relation to other jurisdictions he writes as follows:

"Our intercourse with sister jurisdictions continues most peaceful and pleasant, but our relations are not as intimate as they might and should be. True, we know something of the work done and the progress being made in other Grand Bodies through the annual reports of our Committee on Correspondence, but with the aid of the Representatives here of such bodies, if a proper effort were made, there is no reason why we could not

have a complete record of Masonic work in every jurisdiction. I would suggest that each year our Representatives correspond with the Grand Bodies represented by them and procure their reports, not for individual use and reference, but to be added to the library of the Grand Chapter. What a magnificent Masonic library could be accumulated in this manner, and what a splendid legacy to hand down to those who come after us! Aside from that, such a course would bring us into closer relation with our Brethren everywhere, and tend strongly to cement the chain which makes of us a common brotherhood."

The report of the Grand Secretary shows an increase of eighty-seven, making the total number of members eleven hundred and fifty-four, and the Treasurer's report shows a balance of \$2477.90.

The following resolutions were presented and adopted :

*"Resolved*, That hereafter candidates in passing through the Chapter shall be examined in open Chapter as to their proficiency in each preceding degree before receiving the following degrees. Be it further

*"Resolved*, That a Special Committee of three be appointed to report at the next Grand Convocation to formulate the required amount of examination to be passed by each candidate for his proficiency in each degree."

Companions, this will make your members *bright* Royal Arch Masons, but if the examinations are made in open Chapter it will consume a great deal of time. In one Lodge in Pennsylvania, a committee is appointed to instruct the candidate as he advances and then the Master examines him as to his proficiency.

We missed the name of Past Grand High Priest Bayley, Grand Representative for Pennsylvania, from the list of those present, and his absence is explained by the following resolutions adopted just before the Grand Chapter closed :

*"Resolved*, That it is with extreme regret we learn of the enforced absence, occasioned by sickness, of Past Grand High Priest Jas. R. Bayley; and

*"Resolved*, That we extend to our venerable Companion our heartfelt sympathy, and indulge the hope that he may be spared many years to guide us with his counsel and advice."

The volume of proceedings is gotten up handsomely, as usual, and contains nearly two hundred and fifty pages, with

much that is of interest to the Companions of Oregon in the way of statistical tables, decisions, etc.

The report of the Committee on Correspondence comprises one hundred and twenty-three pages and is from the pen of Comp. J. M. Hodson.

He reviews the proceedings of forty-five Grand Jurisdictions, and Pennsylvania is given nearly three pages, and 1891 is reviewed. Last year Pennsylvania was not mentioned in their report.

He starts in his report on Pennsylvania by saying :

" Back number, sure enough, but we have received at least three copies of the proceedings of the Royal Arch Grand Convocation for that year in response to as many postal-card requisitions made upon Comp. Meyer, Grand Secretary, and when we noticed that Pennsylvania for 1891 was not reviewed last year we determined that it should no longer be deferred.

" This is an independent Grand Chapter, playing a lone hand and asking no assistance from anybody, not even advice, and from her eminent success in the past we have no doubt of her ability to provide for her future in her own way. She is in hearty fraternal accord with all her peers, and dispenses fraternal courtesies with the most bountiful hand; but so far never so much as " by your leave " acknowledged either allegiance to, or authority of, the General Grand Chapter."

He says of Comp. Morgan's address that it is " of excellent literary and rhetorical character."

Two years ago Oregon was not noticed in the Pennsylvania report and he says :

" Comp. Stockton Bates, on behalf of the Committee, submitted a very valuable report on correspondence. Oregon in her travels had not gone his way, hence we were not in it, and just how he could make up one hundred and fifty pages of the most readable matter with us out, made us realize how small we were, and feel like the fellow who put his finger in the pail of water and when he pulled it out was surprised that he couldn't find the hole."

Comp. Hodson's report is a fine one and he exercised a great deal of care and expended much time on it we are sure, but he has the satisfaction of knowing that it is in keeping with their handsomely printed books, and is as good as the volume is pretty.

George McD. Stroud was elected Grand High Priest and James F. Robinson was reelected Grand Secretary.

## QUEBEC.

The Sixteenth Annual Convocation was held in Montreal, January 24, A.D. 1893, A.I. 2423. M.E. Albert D. Nelson, Grand Z., presiding. Ten Chapters and twenty Grand Chapters represented.

From the annual address of the Grand Z. we make the following extracts :

" We have no dissensions of any kind within our territory, I have not been called upon to give any official decisions, which is a fact that speaks well for our Companions.

" Our membership is about as heretofore, though I think a great deal more interest has been shown throughout the jurisdiction.

" I am called upon to report the decease of our M. E. Comp. Hezekiah Luke Robinson, P. G. Z., who died April 14 last, at a ripe old age, after a long illness, deeply regretted by his Companions of this Grand Chapter, to whom he had rendered much valuable aid through a long life of active Masonry."

The proceedings are neatly printed.

Three memorial pages are devoted to the dead of the past year.

A memorial minute is published portraying the life and Masonic career of Comp. H. L. Robinson, Past Grand Z., who had filled the highest offices in the gift of Grand Lodge and Grand Chapter.

There are ten active Chapters in the jurisdiction, reporting a membership of 425, five less than at the last return.

In consequence of the delay in the publication of the proceedings caused by the destruction by fire of the copy when almost completed, the report contains the following sorrowful greetings from the Grand Scribe E.:

"' MONTREAL, May 13, 1893.

"' EXCELLENT COMPANIONS:—It becomes my sad duty to communicate the sorrowful intelligence that the dark shadow of death has entered our circle and called into the great and silent majority our dearly beloved Companion, Edwin Ruthven Johnson, Past Grand H. and Grand Z. elect of this Most Excellent Grand Chapter.'"

And again :

"' EXCELLENT COMPANIONS:—Again in sorrow and sadness I have to communicate the mournful information that the shadow of death has

once more crossed our threshold and removed from our midst another very dearly beloved Companion, James Frederick Walker, Grand Third Principal J. of this Most Excellent Grand Chapter."

Both of these Companions were interred, with appropriate honors, by the M. W. Grand Lodge of Quebec, A. F. & A. M., of which they were both Past Grand Masters.

It is rare for death to claim so many members of the Grand Council so soon after their election, and its very rarity adds to the sense of affliction sustained by the survivors.

In their great bereavement the Companions of Quebec have our cordial sympathy.

In consequence of the deaths of these members of the Grand Council, the retiring Grand Z., who had been elected and installed Grand Treasurer, retained the station of Grand First Principal Z., his successor having died without being installed, and as such appointed a P. G. Z. as acting Grand Treasurer of the Grand Chapter, to replace him in said office, also filling the office of Grand Third Principal J. until the next Annual Grand Convocation.

The report on foreign correspondence is by Comp. E. T. D. Chambers, who with commendable diligence and zeal prepared a second report after the first had been almost entirely destroyed by fire while in the hands of the printer.

Under Michigan,

"In commenting upon the adverse report of the Committee on Jurisprudence, which was adopted by the Grand Chapter, on the following decision of the Grand High Priest:

"Answer, No. If only one black ball appears, the High Priest may order another ballot to avoid a possible mistake. There should be no remarks made unless by the High Priest, and then only a few words of caution to the Companions,"

"The committee took the ground that in large cities the only method of ascertaining the standing of men and their qualifications for the degrees is through information derived in the Chapter room regarding the qualifications for the favors sought. The report of the committee appointed to ascertain the fitness of material is meagre, not satisfactory."

he says :

"Of course the committee is right in believing that the Chapter should be 'fully informed regarding the standing, reputation and qualifications of a candidate for whom they are about to deposit their ballot.' It is also true that in some large cities, such as Detroit, the Companions may not all know the applicants personally. But we deny that in such cases

'the only method of ascertaining their standing as men, and their qualifications for the degrees, is through information derived in the Chapter room regarding the qualifications for the favors sought; and we say further, that 'the report of the Committee appointed to ascertain the fitness of material' has no business to be either 'meagre' or 'unsatisfactory.' We insist that the only means of publicly acquiring the desired information respecting candidates in the Chapter room should be from the Committee's report; and this report, if the Committee faithfully perform its duty, will be neither too meagre nor too unsatisfactory, but will be quite ample enough, if, after strict inquiry and patient research, it sums up the result of its investigation in a faithful finding as to whether the candidate is or is not worthy of acceptance as a member of the Chapter. And if there be any Companions who have not the utmost confidence in the usual finding of such committees, or in the composition of any special committee of inquiry, it is their duty to make personal inquiry into the character and antecedents of the candidate. And this they must do, not in the open Chapter room, but amongst those most competent to form a correct estimate in such matters, and before they come to the Chapter room to cast their ballots at all. To facilitate them in their work of investigation and of identifying the candidate and his surroundings, are not his name, age, residence and profession or calling published upon the summons of the meeting at which he is to be balloted for? If others than the Committee of Inquiry can discuss in the Chapter room the character of the candidate, there will be a speedy end to the secrecy of the ballot. Imagine, for instance, the case of every Companion present, save one, speaking favorably of the candidate, and one black ball being persistently cast in the ballot box! Despite the able argument of the Committee, and its adoption, candor and a thorough belief in the inviolable secret of the ballot compel us to declare, in all courtesy and kindness, that we can neither agree with the reversal of the Grand High Priest's decision nor yet with the grounds upon which it is founded."

To all of which we give our unqualified assent.

He devotes considerable space to Pennsylvania for 1891, quoting from Grand High Priest Alex. H. Morgan's address, the letter of Comp. W. J. Hughan, and the report on correspondence by Comp. Stockton Bates.

We would like to copy from his conclusion the tender and eloquent tribute which he, the only surviving member of the Grand Council elected in January, 1893, gives to its departed members, but lack of space forbids.

A. D. Nelson, Grand Z.; Will H. Whyte, Grand Scribe E.

#### SOUTH CAROLINA.

The Eighty-second Annual Grand Communication was held in Charleston, February 14, A.D. 1893, A.I. 2423. M. E.

W. H. Witherow, Grand High Priest, presiding. Seventeen Chapters and eleven Grand Chapters represented.

The Grand High Priest delivered his annual address, in which he says :

"Devout thanksgiving should be rendered to the Giver of all good that we have been spared through the vicissitudes of another year, and that the circle of our Grand Jurisdiction remains unbroken.

"Let our hearts go forth in fraternal sympathy to those of our sister Grand Chapters that have lost, during the past year, Companions eminent in Masonry, who, after lives of devotion to the principles of our Order, have passed within the veils.

"Within our own jurisdiction, during the year that has just closed, peace and harmony have prevailed. No grievances have been reported, no questions of Masonic law have been submitted for decision, and but few of the usual dispensations have been called for. I was greatly in hopes that some of our dormant Chapters would have been resuscitated, but I am not able to report success in this direction.

"Our relations with our sister Grand Chapters are of the most pleasant and fraternal character."

He advocates the change in the ritual and urges the High Priests of the Chapters to make themselves proficient therein and then impart this knowledge to their officers and members.

He urges that the resolution adopted in 1883 requiring all candidates to undergo a satisfactory examination in the preceding degree before being advanced should be carried out.

In this connection, speaking for ourself personally, we think in justice to the reputation of the jurisdiction, the Chapter and the candidate, that he should be sufficiently instructed in the preceding degree, before receiving another, to be able to prove himself to be in possession of it.

We note from the report of the Grand Secretary that Chapters are allowed to exist, although making no returns and paying no dues for years.

M. E. Comp. W. H. Witherow, Grand High Priest, was unanimously reelected.

In the report of the Committee on Address of Grand High Priest we find :

"We are glad to know, that our paternal relations with our sister Grand Chapters have not been broken."

We regret our inability to realize what these paternal relations are.

The appointment of Grand Representatives to the jurisdictions of Delaware, Tennessee and Indian Territory was indorsed.

The financial condition is good, the receipts exceeding the expenditures.

Admitted, 20; dimitted, 14; expelled, 2; died, 7; suspended, N. P. D. 17; degrees conferred, 173. Number of members, 653.

The Committee on Dispensations reported, and the report was adopted, recommending that three Chapters "be authorized to resume work under their old charters, and that dispensations be granted each to receive applications for degrees and ballot thereon without the usual twenty-eight days intervening, and to elect and install officers at any meeting within ninety days from the date of such dispensations. We further recommend that all arrears due by said Chapters to the Grand Chapter be remitted." We have no Committee on Dispensations in Pennsylvania.

No report on correspondence.

W. H. Witherow, Winnsboro, Grand High Priest; J. E. Burke, Charleston, Grand Secretary.

## SOUTH DAKOTA.

The Fourth Annual Convocation was held in the city of Yankton, June 15, A.D. 1893, A.I. 2423. M. E. Edward B. Bracy, Grand High Priest, presiding. Nineteen Chapters and twelve Grand Chapters represented.

The Grand High Priest delivered a lengthy annual address, from which we make the following extracts:

"The worth of large or small organizations of men should and will be estimated by the good they bring to humanity. The good we *do* is what counts in this estimate; not what we advocate. Companions, let us ever be alive to the need of practical Masonry. So shall our beloved organization be perpetuated throughout the ages to come.

"In the mercy of the Divine Architect no break has been made in the ranks of this Grand Chapter during its recess."

He granted dispensations for opening two new Chapters, also three dispensations to ballot for candidates without waiting

the prescribed time, upon which the Committee on Jurisdiction report:

"We recommend the approval of his action, but must reiterate our disapproval of a violation of Sec. 10, of Art. 2, of the By-Laws of this Grand Chapter. We believe the unqualified approval of the dispensation granted to establish a hazardous precedent."

Under the subject of recording marks, he says:

"I see no way of enforcing this rule and restoring a neglected custom except by instituting a rule requiring each Mark Master to record his mark before he can be allowed to 'pass the Chair,' or before he becomes eligible to the Past Master's degree."

Under condition of the Craft:

"From every part of this Grand jurisdiction come cheering accounts of the prosperity of the Craft. Peace and harmony prevail."

Under jurisdiction:

"Looking at the matter upon all sides, I am led to the conclusion that there is need of an amendment to the clause of our code relating to this subject. In some cases it is difficult to determine the limits of jurisdiction; in others the rule inflicts a hardship upon Brother Masons who are forced by it to go, in some instances, a roundabout course fifty or sixty miles out of their way, when another Chapter could be reached direct. But this is not all: To my knowledge many Masons would take the Chapter degrees if allowed to select their Chapter, who will not under the present conditions."

In response to his recommendations the following was adopted:

*"Resolved,* That in this jurisdiction a candidate may apply for the degrees to the Chapter most accessible by rail to his residence in this Grand Jurisdiction."

Charters were granted to two new Chapters.

There are twenty-six Chapters, including the two new ones, on the roll, with a membership of 1426 R. A. M.

Exalted, 163; admitted, 13; reinstated, 3; dimitted, 51; suspended, 29; died, 9. Net increase for the year, 90.

The proceedings are neatly printed. Portraits of Grand High Priest Edward B. Bracy and P. G. H. P. William Blatt are given.

The report on correspondence is by Comp. George A. Pettigrew, Grand Secretary, who reviews the proceedings of forty-four Grand Chapters, Pennsylvania for 1891 being among the number.

The review is full and exhaustive, quoting liberally from the proceedings reviewed.

He devotes five pages to Pennsylvania, quoting from Grand High Priest A. H. Morgan's address, and gives his edict upon jurisdiction; he also quotes Comp. Bates' review, differing with him sometimes.

He says :

"It seems from the proceedings that a Chapter must secure permission from the Grand Chapter to receive and act upon new petitions from rejected material. This is a new deal to us, and we don't see where the benefit, if any, comes in. It seems to us that the Chapter itself should have jurisdiction."

The law in Pennsylvania is as follows in reference to a rejected applicant. After the expiration of six months from the date of his rejection, he may make a second application for initiation and membership in the Chapter that rejected him. If he is again rejected, after the expiration of one year from such second rejection, he may, after certain prescribed proceedings have been complied with, present a third petition to the same Chapter. If the applicant is again rejected, this rejection ends all action by the Chapter in the case. Further action can only be taken by the authority of the Grand Chapter.

Under Tennessee, he advocates what is the law in this jurisdiction in reference to objections to candidates. With us an objection to the initiation of an approved candidate is valid prior to his having the Mark degree conferred upon him. An objection to his advancement is not valid; charges must be preferred; "if the charge is sustained he cannot be advanced, and if, on the trial, the Chapter should suspend or expel him, his membership ceases."

Robert T. Sedam, Grand High Priest; George A. Pettigrew, Grand Secretary.

## TENNESSEE.

The Sixty-fourth Annual Convocation was held in Nashville, January 23, A.D. 1893, A.I. 2423, M. E. John B. Garrett, Grand High Priest, presiding. Fifty-two Chapters and twenty-five Grand Chapters represented.

The Grand High Priest delivered his annual address, in which, after speaking of the apathy and indifference manifested in some Chapters, and stating that one Chapter had not collected one cent of dues since its organization and that many others are almost as neglectful, he says:

"I have found from personal experience that the most flourishing Masonic bodies are those who promptly collect their dues."

And adds :

"Notwithstanding these difficulties the returns for the year show a net increase."

He speaks in terms of commendation of the Masonic lives and virtues of two distinguished Companions who have been called off from labor to repose—Townsend A. Thomas, who was Grand High Priest in 1869, after having served the Grand Lodge of California as Grand Treasurer in 1852, and Deputy Grand Master in 1853, and the Grand Chapter of California as Grand Secretary until 1858; and Algernon Sidney Currey, who was elected Deputy Grand High Priest in 1874 and served as Grand High Priest in 1875..

He makes the gratifying announcement :

"So far as I have been advised this jurisdiction is at peace with other Grand Jurisdictions; no dissensions or schisms have arisen within our own borders."

His official acts and dispensations were of a local character. Under official visiting he says :

"I have found time, however, to make a few. They were very pleasant. Unless he makes official visits, a Grand High Priest never enjoys the honors of his high office."

Under correspondence :

"I am pleased to report that for the first time in many years we are able to present a report on correspondence. It is from the pen of that eminent Companion and ripe scholar, George C. Connor."

Under Widows' and Orphans' Home :

"It affords me great pleasure to report that through the energy, zeal and ability of the Board of Trustees the Widows' and Orphans' Home of Tennessee is about completed, and is now occupied by several widows and orphans of our deceased Companions."

The charter of one Chapter was arrested and the dispensation of one revoked.

A charter was granted to a Chapter working under dispensation.

The Grand Visitors are required to exemplify the Royal Arch degree at each Annual Convocation of the Grand Chapter.

From an amendment to the By-Laws of the Grand Chapter, that was adopted, we quote :

"The Grand Chapter shall consist of the following officers, . . . . who shall be elected at each stated Convocation, by nomination and ballot, unless there be but one nomination, when the ballot may be dispensed with and an election had by acclamation."

This differs so much from the mode of election in Pennsylvania that we make a note of it.

Exalted, 213; admitted, 59; restored, 11; withdrawn, 67; dropped from the roll and suspended N. P. D., 64; expelled, 1; died, 36; total R. A. M., 2472.

The proceedings form a neat pamphlet, with two memorial pages and include a uniform code of By-Laws, which is rather meagre in comparison with those in force with us; a digest of the decisions of the General Grand Chapter, and a list of the permanent members of the Grand Chapter of Tennessee.

The report on correspondence is by Comp. George C. Connor, who reviews the proceedings of thirty-six Grand Chapters, Pennsylvania for 1891 being among the number.

Comp. Connor comments liberally, making a readable and entertaining review.

Under Maryland, he quotes a peculiarity from Pennsylvania; and asks if the Past Master's degree is not in the system of that jurisdiction? It is not. The passing to the chair, which is the installation of a W. M. of a Lodge and under the sole control of the Grand Lodge, is a prerequisite to the Mark degree. This regulation is as old as the Grand Chapter of Pennsylvania, as the following extract will show:

"From the rules and regulations for the government of the Grand Holy Royal Arch Chapter, unanimously agreed to and established at a Grand Chapter held in Philadelphia, February 24, 1798.

"III. That no brother shall be admitted into the Holy Royal Arch but he who has regularly and faithfully passed through the three progressive degrees, and has filled and performed the office of Worshipful Master in his Lodge to the satisfaction of his brethren, or passed the chair by a dispensation of the R. W. Grand Master upon the recommendation of his said Lodge; to ascertain which they shall deliver to him in open Lodge a certificate to the following purport:"

The change from the original system of four degrees to that now in force was adopted January 5, 1824.

In reviewing Pennsylvania for 1891, he quotes from the proceedings the amendments to the Constitution upon the subjects of honorary membership and life membership; from the letter of Comp. Hughan, and the Grand High Priest's address. Dilating upon the conclusion of Comp. Bates' report he says:

"No, Freemasonry is like unto all other societies conducted by men; it is full of human weaknesses. How could it be otherwise? Masons are men, who, as Masons, are not required to make protestations of belief in Creeds or Articles of Faith. Acknowledging the Fatherhood of God and the brotherhood of man, and looking beyond the grave to a life of eternal joy, made possible by the mercy of the Father, the Royal Arch Mason fulfills his destiny with the light given him, and the opportunities that surround him. And a major part of his destiny is to feed the hungry, clothe the naked and bind up the wounds of the afflicted."

He closes his report with a series of papers upon subjects now occupying the attention of the Craft, and an article upon parts of the Royal Arch degree.

John T. Williamson, Grand High Priest; W. A. Clendening, Grand Secretary.

## TEXAS.

The Forty-third Annual Convocation was held at Houston, December 6, A.D. 1892, A.I. 2422, M. E. John E. McDonald, Grand High Priest, presiding. Ninety Chapters and thirty-seven Grand Chapters represented.

The annual address of the Grand High Priest recites his official acts, which are of a local character. He read as a part of his address the letter of the General Grand High Priest of the General Grand Chapter appealing to the Grand Chapter of Texas to take such steps as may enable it to be represented again in their Convocations. The subject was referred to a special committee, which made a majority report favoring union and a minority report advocating independence from outside control. After some discussion the reports were laid upon the table and ordered to be printed, together with a minority report of a former committee urging the same action as the present majority report.

The law forfeiting the charter of a Chapter failing to meet for three months caused a number of Chapters to apply for the restoration of their charters and permission to work. Our law dissolving a Chapter for not meeting for twelve months gives, we think, a better opportunity for the Companions to save their charters and overcome any adverse circumstances that may interfere with their holding meetings.

Two new charters were granted.

The Committee on Finance, in view of the financial condition of the Grand Chapter, recommended a reduction in expenses, particularly in the mileage and per diem allowance of the delegates.

Exalted, 537; affiliated, 104; reinstated, 21; dimitted, 194; suspensions, 95; expulsions, 2; deaths, 90. Present membership, 5120.

In the proceedings we find two memorial pages, one devoted to the memory of John P. McMahon, Past Grand High Priest, and one to the dead of the jurisdiction.

The report on correspondence was made by Comp. George Lopas, Jr., at the request of the Chairman, Comp. J. C. Kidd, who was incapacitated by sickness. He reviews forty Grand

Jurisdictions, among them Pennsylvania for 1891, in a concise and spicy manner.

Under the District of Columbia, on the subject of physical disabilities, he says:

"Imagine a one-armed or one-legged man conforming to the ritual in opening a Chapter! Or a blind man (with mental vision) in a tour of discovery! What next?"

Under Maine he gives his views, in no uncertain language, of the value of the General Grand Chapter and the status of Royal Arch Masons in Texas in regard to it. He is evidently decidedly opposed to rescinding the resolution adopted by the Grand Chapter of Texas, June 17, 1861, which reads:

*"Resolved*, That all connection between this Grand Chapter and the General Grand Chapter of the United States is dissolved and forever annihilated."

He devotes two pages to a review of Pennsylvania for 1891.

In commenting on the edict of Grand High Priest A. H. Morgan that a Master Mason may apply for the Chapter degrees in any Chapter in the jurisdiction without regard to his place of residence, he says:

"We cannot concur in this 'new departure,' but as it affects only the Companions of Pennsylvania, we will not demur."

In a State like Pennsylvania, traversed by many ranges of mountains with narrow valleys between, a great hardship would in many instances be inflicted upon a worthy Master Mason by compelling him to apply to the nearest Chapter or remain outside of the fold. We think that a Master Mason should have the same rights that he would demand elsewhere of selecting his own associates and companions, and that if the membership of one Chapter was more congenial than that of another, he should have the privilege of going among friends and acquaintances, and not be compelled to affiliate with strangers with whom he has but little if any acquaintance; but inquiry should be made of the nearest Chapter as to his character and fitness for advancement. The whole question of jurisdiction seems to us to rest purely and simply on the desire for initiation fees, made necessary by Grand Chapters

yielding to the solicitations of interested Companions and chartering more Chapters than the territory will properly sustain.

He quotes from the Grand High Priest's address concerning the wisdom of the independent position of this Grand Chapter and adds :

"Look out for the missionaries."

To which we would reply that the Grand Chapter of Pennsylvania still retains its ancient sovereignty and independence.

He quotes approvingly from Comp. Stockton Bates' report on correspondence.

S. J. Morriss, Grand High Priest; Robert Brewster, Grand Secretary.

## VERMONT.

The seventy-sixth Annual Convocation was held in Burlington, June 16, A. D. 1893, A. I. 2423, M. E. George W. Wing, Grand High Priest, presiding. Twenty-four Chapters and twenty-eight Grand Chapters represented.

The Grand High Priest in his annual address gives the records of some of the dead of the jurisdiction, and adds :

"From all our sister jurisdictions come tidings of the havoc made by the grim destroyer. None escape him. The roll is long of those who have given of the best of their lives to the service of their brethren; of names honored throughout the world; a record of individual effort in the service of the brotherhood of man. 'Blessed are the dead who die in the Lord.' I recommend that memorial pages be set apart to their memory."

One dispensation for a new Chapter was issued, but as one of the old Chapters voted to remove to the same place, he, wisely considering that one good, live, working Chapter was better in that jurisdiction than two soon to be scarcely self-sustaining, revoked the dispensation for a new Chapter and authorized the removal. In which action he was sustained by the Grand Chapter.

Under visitations he says :

"At every opportunity, in season and out, I have exhorted the Companions to pay more attention to the social element of our institution.

We know too little of each other's desires, hopes and aspirations ; too little of each other's necessities ; the opportunity to assist, to save, to dispense charity, to whisper good counsel is often lost from want of knowledge that such opportunity exists. Come closer together, my brethren, and with mutual exchange of confidences let us learn to know each other better."

From the report of the Grand Secretary we take the following statistics for the past year :

"Exalted, 138 ; admitted, 19 ; reinstated, 1 ; died, 36 ; dimitted, 41 ; suspended, 18 ; present membership, 2502."

The financial condition of the Grand Chapter is good.

The proceedings are neatly printed. Eight memorial pages are devoted to the dead of their own and other jurisdictions.

The report of the Committee on Correspondence is made by its Chairman, Comp. Marsh O. Perkins. He reviews in a concise manner forty-two Grand Chapters. All the American Grand Chapters with but four exceptions. Pennsylvania unfortunately is one of the missing ones.

He is evidently opposed to the requirement of physical perfection in applicants, for under Nevada he says :

"Great is the humbug, Physical Perfection ! and deaf to all reason are its devotees."

Under New York, in commenting on a decision of the Grand High Priest

"that a Companion in arrears for dues, but otherwise in good standing, and not under suspension for his arrearages, cannot be debarred from voting upon the application of a candidate, the By-Laws of the Chapter to the contrary notwithstanding."

he says :

"Unquestionably good law, and applicable to the right of admission to the Chapter, and participation in business of whatever nature that may come before it."

From the latter part of this opinion we differ in one particular. In Pennsylvania the Companion who does not bear his share of the burden in supporting his Chapter financially, and

is therefore in arrears, is not eligible to be elected to office or allowed to vote at the annual election for officers.

No Chapter in this jurisdiction can adopt a By-Law that conflicts with the Constitution of the Grand Chapter, as all By-Laws and amendments to By-Laws must be approved by Grand Chapter before they become effective.

Myron J. Horton, Grand High Priest; Warren G. Reynolds, Grand Secretary.

## VIRGINIA.

The Eighty-sixth Annual Convocation was held in Richmond, October 10, A. D. 1893, A. I. 2423, M. E. W. Lewis Jeffries, Grand High Priest, presiding. Twenty-one Chapters and seven Grand Chapters represented.

The M. E. Grand High Priest delivered his annual address, in which he congratulates the Companions upon the pleasant outlook for their present meeting and that, notwithstanding the business trials of the past year, Capitular Masonry has been enabled to advance steadily along its career of usefulness.

He says:

"Let us thank God and take courage for His overruling providence and mercies to us as Masons."

And adds:

"My duties have not been onerous; peace and harmony have been so nearly universal in this Grand Jurisdiction that I have been called upon to decide very few points of difference. Our Digest has been so ably and concisely compiled that there can scarcely be two opinions as to what the law is in any given case."

We congratulate our Companions of Virginia upon the possession of such a valuable and labor-saving Digest.

"Charters were issued for the permanent establishment of five Chapters. I sent my prescript for their institution and the installation of their officers to Excellent Companions who have discharged their duties."

Among the dispensations granted was one to a Chapter to

appear at a Masonic picnic in Masonic clothing of the Royal Arch degree. The privilege was not used.

Our law does not allow any procession or other public display of a Royal Arch Chapter as such.

We note that the By-Laws of the Chapters are forwarded to the Grand High Priest for his approval through the District Deputy Grand Lecturers, after having been approved by them.

On the subject of Masonic Home, we quote from the annual address :

" This magnificent Masonic charity continues to grow in favor with the Fraternity, and now affords a striking lesson of the practical utility of Masonry. Companions, I commend it to your earnest attention."

The Grand Lecturer gives a report of his visitations and efforts for the dissemination of a knowledge of the work, and concludes by stating that the cost to the Grand Chapter aggregated during the year only \$225.21.

A chair was presented to Comp. Isaacs on behalf of the Grand Chapter of Virginia. He "having, at this Grand Annual Convocation, answered to roll call as Deputy Grand Secretary and Grand Secretary in this Grand Chapter for the fiftieth time."

The following resolution was adopted:

" *Resolved*, That it is the sense of this Grand Chapter that, under Section 160 of the Methodical Digest, a High Priest has the right to summon his Chapter at his discretion."

The proceedings form a neat pamphlet. Considerable space is allotted to the reports of the District Deputy Grand Lecturers and a list of the officers and members of the Chapters in the jurisdiction.

One memorial page is devoted to the dead of the year.

A list is given of the Companions who have withdrawn, been reinstated or suspended.

No report on correspondence.

From a summary and comparative statement for the years 1890, 1891, 1892 and 1893 we take the following statistics for 1893 :

" Exalted, 282; affiliated, 39; deaths, 28; reinstated, 5; withdrawn,

133; expelled, none; suspended, un-Masonic conduct, 2; N. P. D., 45; total members, 2310."

John T. Carter, Danville, Grand High Priest; William B. Isaacs, Richmond, Grand Secretary.

## WASHINGTON.

The Ninth Annual Convocation was held in the city of Tacoma, June 16, A. D. 1893, A. I. 2423, M. E. William McMicken, Grand High Priest, presiding.

Sixteen Chapters and twenty-eight Grand Chapters represented.

The Grand High Priest delivered his annual address, in which he gives his official actions during the year, and closes with certain recommendations.

He says:

"Not a single case of fraternal strife or discord in our cherished Order has come to my notice, nor has any been reported during the past year."

He gives a list of the dead of his own jurisdiction and those of other jurisdictions that have been reported to him.

Among his official acts was the constitution of one Chapter, the installation of its officers, and the granting of dispensations to organize two Chapters U. D.

Among the decisions given is the statement:

"The practice of conferring more than one degree on a candidate the same evening, as a rule, however, is objectionable, for reasons already well known to most Masons."

He visited every Chapter but one, and only failed to visit that one through the fact that, as the meeting was held on Christmas Eve, the members preferred home to the Chapter.

As a result of his visitations, he speaks in praise of the courtesy with which he was received, of the perfection of the work, the Masonic interest entertained by all, and the universal harmony and fraternal concord which prevails in every Chapter.

Charters were granted to two new Chapters.

"Exalted, 111; admitted, 40; reinstated, 1; dimitted, 28; suspended, N. P. D., 19; expelled, 1; died, 9; total membership, 1047."

The proceedings contain three memorial pages.

The report on correspondence is again made by Comp. Yancey C. Blalock, Grand Secretary, who reviews the proceedings of forty-eight Grand Chapters, Pennsylvania for 1891 being among the number.

In reviewing Pennsylvania he quotes, without comment, from the address of Grand High Priest Comp. Alexander H. Morgan, his remarks upon the election of unqualified officers and gives his edict upon jurisdiction.

He also gives the amendments to the Constitution adopted in 1891 upon the subjects of life and honorary membership, and quotes from Comp. Bates' review.

Under Tennessee he gives in full the closing papers of Comp. Connor's report.

He closes with the hope that his report will be read by the Companions of Washington, as he thinks he has clipped the decisions and transactions of interest in the Capitular world. We agree with his claim that he has made ample use of the opportunity afforded him.

John W. Bean, Grand High Priest; Yancey C. Blalock, Grand Secretary.

## WISCONSIN.

The Forty-third Annual Convocation was held in Milwaukee, February 21, A. D. 1893, A. I. 2423, M. E. Charles V. Bardeen, Grand High Priest, presiding. Sixty-two Chapters represented.

From the Annual Address of the Grand High Priest we quote the following:

"If there were never any demands upon our sympathy and our charity, we might become deaf to the plaintive voice of suffering, and heedless of the demands of want and poverty.

"Human nature needs constant discipline, and great calamities are sometimes needed to open the pores and give free vent to the good that is within us.

"The recompense of trouble and disaster is that it develops the

world's kinship, and I say it to our credit, that such lessons are never lost on Masons.

" My duties during the past year have been simply nominal and of the usual routine character.

" Nothing has happened that has been brought to my knowledge to disturb the peace and harmony of the Craft.

" The reports now in the hands of the Grand Secretary indicate a prosperous and healthy growth, and continued fidelity to our noble institution on the part of all our members."

He instituted one Chapter and installed the officers.

He thinks that little or no benefit is derived from reports of the Committee on Foreign Correspondence, that it is a useless and expensive appendage, and recommends the adoption of some plan that will shorten or discontinue the reports of this Committee.

He speaks in kindly terms of the dead of his own and other jurisdictions.

From the reports we cull the following statistics :

" Chapters on the register, 65 ; number exalted, 385 ; admitted, 46 ; reinstated, 15 ; died, 71 ; dimitted, 87 ; suspended, 43 ; membership, 5096."

The financial condition is good, the receipts exceeding the disbursements.

The General Committee, to which the recommendation of the Grand High Priest that the report on correspondence be abridged or discontinued was referred, recommended

" that the Committee be instructed to abridge its reports, wherever it can be done without impairing the substance, and that the reports be continued."

Which was adopted.

Amendments to the Constitution were adopted requiring official bonds

" to be furnished by some acceptable indemnity company at the expense of the Grand Chapter."

Thus relieving the bonded officer from the necessity of soliciting sureties from among his friends.

Thirty-two Chapters by name and number are designated as those to be visited during the ensuing year.

The proceedings are neatly printed.

Three memorial pages are devoted to their own dead and those of other jurisdictions, and a list is published of the dead of the jurisdiction.

The report on correspondence is by Comp. William C. Swain, who ably reviews forty-two Grand Chapters, Pennsylvania for 1891 included, commenting freely and making an interesting report.

In his review of Pennsylvania he gives the amendments to the Constitution in reference to life and honorary membership.

He copies the edict of the Grand High Priest on the subject of jurisdiction, and says:

"which we are inclined to think may be very good law."

He praises Comp. Bates' review as able and readable.

Calvert Spensley, Grand High Priest; John W. Laflin Grand Secretary.

## CONCLUSION.

The Committee again present their report. The work allotted to us on the Trestle Board by the M. E. Grand High Priest is now nearly completed. We have tried to work closely to the designs traced thereon and trust that our work may pass inspection and prove plumb, level and square, entitling us to receive the Mason's wages. The piece of work on which we have worked in our eyes is beautiful in all its parts, fitting truly like the keystone in its place in the Royal Arch. The Ark has been sealed and we trust we may be greeted as workmen most rare. Each one of us has worked in his own workshop, the several pieces have been numbered and our temple erected. Here and there in the quarry work we have found many pieces which merited the consideration of the overseers and these we have carefully selected, inspected, studied and commented on; some more noteworthy than others we have thought worthy of special consideration.

## GENERAL GRAND CHAPTER.

A reference to our proceedings of December 8, 1892, will show the presence at that communication of Grand Chapter of members of a committee appointed by the General Grand Chapter to present an invitation to the Grand Holy Royal Arch Chapter of Pennsylvania to unite with that body. The Grand Chapter was fraternally and eloquently addressed on the subject by the Deputy General Grand High Priest, Comp. George L. McCahan, and the communication was referred to an able committee to consider and report. That committee reported at the March communication this year, and the report was printed and ordered to be sent to each Chapter in Pennsylvania and consideration postponed until the September communication, when it was unanimously adopted, the Grand Chapter of Pennsylvania declining the invitation for such good and sufficient reasons as we are sure will merit the approval of our sister Grand Chapters who are subordinate to General Grand Chapter. Ever since the organization of the General Grand Chapter in 1797 efforts have been made to induce the Grand Chapter of Pennsylvania to become subordinate to it, as one of its constituents. The territory of Pennsylvania was invaded by the General Grand Chapter in the formation or attempted formation of Mark Lodges in Philadelphia in 1812. In 1856 it was thought that Pennsylvania might be forced into a union by intimidation and threats of non-intercourse, by one or more Grand Chapters, but threats failed and now solicitation and a most fraternal invitation are used. When our sister Grand Chapters consider the Masonic position of Royal Arch Masonry in Pennsylvania, they will see how utterly impossible it would be, unless the system of Ancient Craft Masonry was changed, to change or attempt to change which would lead almost to a revolution, then they will see why Pennsylvania can never be of the General Grand Chapter. We claim, in Pennsylvania, to trace our origin and life

to the beginning of Masonry in America. "Looking eastward towards time's sunrise," we can trace apprentices, fellows and Masters at their work in the building of churches, abbeys and minsters—it was always peaceful work—then to their annual assemblies at York, thence to the formation of the first Grand Lodge in 1717, nearer to the deputation of Daniel Coxe, Provincial Grand Master, whose deputation was the first issued in America, nearer to the meeting of Lodge in the Tun Tavern in 1730, of which Benjamin Franklin was at one time Grand Master and Secretary, referring to his Masonic communication with Henry Price, Provincial Grand Master of Massachusetts, of their recognition of each other as Grand Masters. Then Masonry was of but one degree; we can trace the origin of the Grand Lodge of Ancients with Lau. Dermott to guide its course; the formation of the Grand Lodge of the four degrees. We recall the rivalry between the several Grand Lodges, the Ancients and Moderns in England and America, and their final union. We find that ancient Masonry required that the brother must have served or acted as Master of a Lodge or have passed the Chair, before he was eligible to the Royal Arch degree. We trace the Royal Arch in Pennsylvania from 1758; we know that attempts were made to advance brethren to the Royal Arch who had not passed the chairs, and the organization of irregular Chapters which led to the formation of the Grand Chapter of Pennsylvania in November, 1795. We find that Thomas Smith Webb was a visitor to one or more Lodges in Philadelphia and of his having been exalted to the Royal Arch degree in Harmony Chapter of Philadelphia in 1797; of his organization of a Grand Chapter of the New England States, which in time became the General Grand Chapter; then we find the introduction into its system of the Mark Master, Past Master, Most Excellent Master and the Royal Arch degrees. The Grand Chapter of Pennsylvania from 1795 to 1824 recognized only the Royal Arch degree; it then introduced the

Mark and Most Excellent degrees, as at present. These are the tracings in our Trestle Board. For us to become subordinate to the General Grand Chapter we would first have to incorporate the Past Master's degree or else the General Grand Chapter will have to eliminate it from its series. We are sure neither will do this. We believe that the Past Master belongs exclusively to the Blue Lodge and that Chapters have nothing to do with it. It was an official degree originally and nothing more. It is in Ancient Craft Masonry and there it must remain and it should be placed where it belongs and where it is in Pennsylvania under the control of the Grand Lodge. The General Grand Chapter will not discard it because it makes the fifth of its series of the seven degrees. We have no fifth degree or Past Master in Pennsylvania. Again, in Pennsylvania, membership in a Blue Lodge is an essential to membership in the Chapter, but membership in the Chapter is not essential to membership in a Blue Lodge. The General Grand Chapter's laws are not so. Again, we hold that the Grand High Priest of Pennsylvania can alone grant a waiver of jurisdiction or permission for a Master Mason to apply outside of Pennsylvania. Our subordinate Chapters cannot grant or receive permission except by and through the M. E. Grand High Priest of Pennsylvania. These are some of the reasons why the Grand Chapter of Pennsylvania can never become a subordinate to the General Grand Chapter. It cannot and will not surrender its sovereignty to become a subordinate or constituent. The plea urged for this union is that Royal Arch Masonry in 1797 became a union of all Grand Chapters, acknowledging one head. We are confident that Virginia will be as Pennsylvania, that Rhode Island will not return and possibly Texas will remain out. Nothing else but a union could be effected anyway. A body with no powers granted it for enforcing its laws, with no uniform ritual, or uniform law, as in the Grand Encampment of Knights Templar, when its laws are attempted to be enforced,

it is found that these laws were only for the government of the direct subordinates of that General Grand body. The General Grand Chapter adopted a ritual for all, and we read in many of the proceedings that either action was postponed on its adoption or else it was rejected and in some places improved. We read of innovations, some in our opinion outrageous. In one instance, the introduction of non-Masons—of women and men into the Chapter Hall for the purpose, it was stated, of adding to the impressiveness of the ceremonies by vocal and instrumental music. A Chapter that would permit this, any officer who would introduce this, should be so disciplined as would never permit a repetition or an attempt at repetition of the act. It is all nonsense to say that work was suspended while they were singing, that they saw nothing or heard nothing. The mere fact that they were within the tyled body of the Chapter or Lodge is enough. When Masonic work is going on in a Masonic Hall, it is or should be closely tyled to the outer door of street. If any had access into a room adjoining the Chapter Hall, and that door was opened and shut so that they might be heard, then that Lodge or Chapter was not tyled. But people's opinions differ as to what it is possible to do in Freemasonry. We have heard it said that there was employed in one of the places where Masons were wont to meet, a man who was not a Mason of the degrees worked, yet that man was directly beside or above the presiding officer and could hear and see everything that was going on. It was said he was deaf and half blind, yet he could see and hear sufficient to take care of himself. No General Grand body can make and enforce laws that all will and must obey. Some years ago we heard of an application made to a Grand High Priest of one of the Grand Chapters for authority to confer the Capitular degrees on a blind man, one who had been blind from his youth. Opinions were asked from officers of the General Grand Chapter, and one replied that he knew of no law that would

prohibit it, but the General Grand High Priest then said promptly he could not be made a Royal Arch Mason.

#### OUR CENTENNIAL.

We are now in our ninety-ninth year of life as a Grand Chapter. One year more and then we celebrate our centennial. From what we know of our Grand Chapter that occasion will be most memorable. We trust that around our altar will then be gathered representatives from every legitimate Grand Chapter in the world. It is something of which we should be proud—one hundred years! Few men live to reach that age, and if they are providentially permitted to do so the life or the faculties are more or less impaired. But this Grand Chapter lives, stronger in its vigor, giving life to others, and increasing and multiplying its immediate family larger than ever and among whom peace and love and unity prevail. When we look at the past it seems hardly possible that with the progress we have made, and in the many means that have developed, that we may enjoy Masonry. Look at the matter of places of meeting particularly in this jurisdiction—the old Tun tavern in Water street, Philadelphia, where the first and provincial Grand Lodge met, in 1730-1732, in which we were tenants of but a single room, to the magnificent Masonic Temple in which we now meet, costing nearly a million and three-quarters dollars, of which our Grand Lodge is sole owner, and which we believe is the only Masonic Temple in the world devoted exclusively and solely to Masonry, and in which the only business transacted is Masonry. Look at the published proceedings of our own Grand Chapter in 1795, a four-page large foolscap sheet of paper giving the proceedings of the organization of Grand Chapter, and compare them with the proceedings of 1893, embellished with the portraits of our Grand High Priest and of one of his predecessors. No report on correspondence then, a full and complete report now; a membership then of scarcely twenty or twenty-five, with a membership now of

nearly 2000 members, every one of whom has his vote and say. The degree of the Royal Arch then the fourth, and the degrees of Mark Master, Most Excellent Master and Royal Arch Mason now. Three recognized Chapters then, one hundred and nineteen now; not one hundred Royal Arch Masons then, fifteen thousand now. During this time the Grand Chapter has been governed by fifty Grand High Priests, ten Grand Treasurers and sixteen Grand Secretaries. These are some of the reasons why we should celebrate our centennial.

#### OUR DEAD.

“ The now is an atom of Sand,  
And the Near is a perishing clod ;  
But Afar is a Faëry Land  
And Beyond is the bosom of God.”

“ It is as natural to die as to be born, and to a little infant, perhaps, the one is as painful as the other.”

“ Here and there in the body of review the name has been mentioned of some good Brother who has finished his work, laid aside his working tools and died.”

“ Men drop so fast, ere life’s midstage we tread,  
Few know so many friends alive as dead.”

“ On this side and on that men see their friends  
Drop off like leaves in autumn.”

“ And see what Death is doing.”

*Alabama, . . . . Myles Jefferson Greene, P. G. H. P.*  
*Arkansas, . . . . George L. Kimball, P. G. H. P.*  
*California, . . . . Isaac S. Titus, P. G. H. P.,*  
*Townsend E. Thomas, P. G. Sec.*

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<i>Connecticut</i> , . . . .	Chester Tilden, P. G. H. P., Stephen T. Bartlett, G. Scribe.
<i>Delaware</i> , . . . .	John Otto, P. G. H. P.
<i>District of Columbia</i> , . . . .	Joseph Daniels, P. G. H. P.
<i>Florida</i> , . . . .	DeWitt C. Dawkins, P. G. H. P., G. Sec.
<i>Georgia</i> , . . . .	Arthur A. Leet, G. Chaplain, George W. Adams, P. G. H. P.
<i>Indiana</i> , . . . .	Edward S. Ross, G. H. P., LaGrange Severance, D. G. H. P., Robert VanValzah, P. G. H. P.
<i>Iowa</i> , . . . .	N. Wolehin, P. G. Scribe, Sylvester S. Beau, P. G. H. P.
<i>Kansas</i> , . . . .	Edwin D. Hillyer, P. G. H. P.
<i>Louisiana</i> , . . . .	Joseph Potts Horner, P. G. H. P., G. G. H. P., James C. Batchelor, P. G. H. P.
<i>Michigan</i> , . . . .	William Power Innes, P. G. H. P., G. Sec., Albert L. Sawyer, P. G. H. P., Ebenezer Sprague, P. G. H. P., Reuben Wells, G. Chap., Silas Robinson Morrell, P. G. H. P.
<i>Mississippi</i> , . . . .	A. P. Barry, G. Treas.
<i>Nebraska</i> , . . . .	Edwin A. Allen, P. G. H. P., Hugh Clark, G. Treas.
<i>Nevada</i> , . . . .	John H. Hubbs, P. G. H. P., Charles A. Bragg, G. Treas.
<i>New Jersey</i> , . . . .	Martin M. Drohan, P. G. H. P., Elwood Conner, P. G. K., Samuel G. Bennett, G. Tyler.
<i>North Dakota</i> , . . . .	John Davidson, P. G. H. P.
<i>Nova Scotia</i> , . . . .	George T. Smythers, G. Sec., Samuel Porter, P. G. K.
<i>Oregon</i> , . . . .	Thomas McFadden Patton, P. G. H. P., John B. Lee, P. G. H. P.
<i>Quebec</i> , . . . .	Edwin Ruthven Johnson, G. H. P. elect, John Frederick Walker, G. 3d P., Joseph Martin, P. G. J., Hezekiah Luke Robinson, P. G. Z.
<i>Rhode Island</i> , . . . .	Nicholas VanSlyck, P. G. H. P.
<i>Scotland</i> , . . . .	James Crichton, D. G. Z.
<i>South Carolina</i> , . . . .	Jacob S. Conner, G. Chap.
<i>Tennessee</i> , . . . .	Robert I. Chester, P. G. H. P., Townsend A. Thomas, P. G. H. P.,

*Tennessee, . . . . Algernon S. Curray, P. G. H. P.*  
*Texas, . . . . John B. McMahon, P. G. H. P.*

“And they died as if overcome by sleep.”

“The rest is silence.”

“When I remember all, the friends so linked together  
I've seen around me fall, like leaves in wintry weather,  
I feel like one who treads alone, some banquet hall deserted,  
Whose lights are fled, whose garlands dead, and all but he departed.”

We can add no words to the many tender and eloquent eulogies paid these dear Companions by their several Grand Chapters. They merited all that could be said of them. The Arches may have been more than rough to some of them, but the signet was true and gained their admission into the Inner Veil and into the presence of the Grand High Priest of heaven and earth.

#### GRAND REPRESENTATIVES.

A question now engaging more than the usual attention is that of the genus of the Grand Representative. This office or appointment may be said to be of modern date, having its origin in the Grand Lodge of New York. It was almost, if not entirely, unknown in ancient times. It was then the prerogative of a Grand Master to issue to a worthy Brother who was traveling abroad his commission authorizing him to convey to foreign Grand Lodges the fraternal greetings and salutations of himself and Grand Lodge to the Grand Master, officers and members of any Grand Lodge that he might visit. The Ahiman Rezon of Pennsylvania, 1824, authorized the Grand Master to appoint by warrant any Brother to represent him in a sister Grand Lodge, but in turning to the Appendix as to the form of such warrant we find, “No. 24, Commis-

sion to a Brother to visit foreign Grand Lodges and Lodges," and it is issued to a member of a Lodge of this jurisdiction who is about to visit distant countries or other States, and requested and required him when he visited to present the "credentials to assure them of our most fraternal regards and of our dispositions to cultivate a mutual correspondence, and to give to said Grand Lodge, Lodges, or Brethren such information as may be requisite concerning the state of the Craft with us, conceiving that it will manifestly tend to promote order, harmony and reciprocal affection over the globe," etc. This is the form at the present day in Grand Lodge and Grand Chapter. The present system of Grand Representatives no doubt originated in a desire to create new officers, to give new honors, to put up more pegs on which Grand Officers could hang the hats of their friends in the Grand Bodies. The majority of Grand Representatives know nothing of the history, doings, jurisprudence and laws of the Grand Body they represent. They have never tried to know, they won't try to know, and they have no particular business to know. The Grand Master or Grand High Priest attends to the business, both foreign and domestic, of his Grand Lodge, and the Grand Secretary is elected to attend to the correspondence of Grand Lodge. To carry out the general idea of the duties of Representatives would require that all the correspondence between the several Grand Bodies should go through the hands of the respective Grand Representatives. The Grand High Priest of Pennsylvania, desiring to address the Grand High Priest of New York, sends his communication to the Grand Representative of Pennsylvania, near the Grand Chapter of New York, who forwards the same to the Grand High Priest of New York, who transmits his reply through the Grand Representative of the Grand Chapter of New York, near the Grand Chapter of Pennsylvania, and he sends it or hands it to the Grand High Priest of Pennsylvania. As it is, the Grand Representative is ignored and the business is transacted through the proper

Grand Officers, as it should be. We have been honored for a number of years with commissions as Grand Representative of different Grand Bodies, and have but once during that time been called upon to perform an official act. What to do with the Grand Representatives is becoming a serious question with some of the Grand Chapters. The term of commission runs from three years, or until the pleasure of the Grand High Priest or Grand Chapter. A discussion has arisen as to his title—"Very Excellent," or what? His jewel has also given some trouble, and what his duties are has been discussed. The Grand Master of Masons of Pennsylvania, Comp. Michael Arnold, has pierced the Representative bubble and has withdrawn all commissions issued by his predecessors and sat down on the system. Other Grand Lodges have also considered the matter and, in time, the Grand Representative will be a thing of the past, with his commission, jewel, and title.

#### MASONIC HOMES AND CHARITY.

It is a source of pleasure to read of the great progress made in the establishment and maintenance of Masonic Homes. It is a good sign when prosperity dwells in our midst that we look to the future. It has been truly said, "We know what we are, we know not what we may become," and so there may be a little selfishness in our actions, as we know not when possibly we may be an object of sympathy for the consideration of our Brethren. We remember to have seen an account of a Brother who while in good financial condition was one of the originators and promoters of, we think, the Masonic Home in Michigan. Reverses came to him and when the institution was completed and ready for its Masonic work, this brother was the first to enter its doors as an inmate and realize that "the bread he cast upon the waters was returned to him ere many days." We believe also that the Masonic Home in New York owes its origin to a contribu-

tion of one dollar from a poor, worthy Brother. Our Brother Stephen Girard, when by his will he left \$20,000 to the Grand Lodge of Pennsylvania, to be invested and reinvested until the principal reached the sum of \$30,000, the interest therefrom thereafter to be used for the relief of worthy poor and distressed Master Masons, our Brother never dreamed that the fund within fifty years would reach the sum of over \$70,000, and thousands within that period be distributed for the relief of the poor Brothers. His donation stimulated the brethren of our Grand Lodge to the creation of a Grand Lodge Charity Fund for the relief of the widow and orphans of brethren who had within three years of their death been contributing members of Lodges and which during the same time had increased to nearly \$75,000 and which had also distributed thousands of dollars for the relief of the widow and orphan. Our subordinate Lodges and Chapters are contributing their hundreds and thousands of dollars annually to applicants worthy of their charity. These funds and their proper distribution were the constant thought and study of a Brother who had for twenty-odd years acted as their Treasurer and he found one place where he thought the most good could be done, and that was to the worthy widow of a brother Mason who had passed the age of forty-five, who was poor. He found that the world was cold and bleak and the chances for a betterment less to her than to a younger widow, therefore he thought of his beloved wife who had passed away from him forever, and in her name and as a testimonial to her memory, he donated the sum of \$25,000, and one year thereafter, seeing the good it had done and was capable of doing, gave the further sum of \$25,000, making a total of \$50,000, thus creating the **THOMAS R. PATTON MEMORIAL CHARITY FUND**, and within six months of its commencement its charity was made operative. Our own Masonic Home is prospering now and its benefits participated in by many worthy inmates. We do not look upon these inmates as recipients of charity, but as partakers

of the good things that have been prepared for them by their more fortunate brethren. Our personal knowledge leads us to testify to the grand work done by the Masonic Home of Pennsylvania, which owes its immediate success to the labors of our late Comp. Edward Masson, and to the present President, Comp. Louis Wagner. What we have said of our own Home may be said of all others. They are all flourishing and successful and doing a glorious Masonic work, and above all they merit the sympathy and support of the entire Masonic world.

MATHIAS H. HENDERSON,  
CHARLES E. MEYER,  
J. SIMPSON AFRICA,  
JOSHUA L. LYTE,  
JOHN P. CLARK,

*Committee on Correspondence.*

## GRAND CHAPTERS IN CORRESPONDENCE WITH GRAND CHAPTER OF PENNSYLVANIA.

### GRAND CHAPTERS.

GRAND CHAPTERS.	GRAND SECRETARIES.
Alabama . . . . .	Henry C. Armstrong, Montgomery.
Arizona . . . . .	John M. Ormsby, Tucson.
Arkansas . . . . .	James A. Henry, Little Rock.
California . . . . .	Thomas H. Caswell, San Francisco.
Canada . . . . .	Thomas Sargent, Hamilton, Ontario.
Colorado . . . . .	Ed. C. Parmelee, Denver.
Connecticut . . . . .	Joseph K. Wheeler, Hartford.
Delaware . . . . .	James H. Price, Wilmington.
District of Columbia . . . . .	Lewis G. Stephens, Washington.
England . . . . .	Edward Letchworth, Freemasons' Hall, London.
Florida . . . . .	W. A. McLean, Jacksonville.
Georgia . . . . .	A. M. Wolihin, Macon.
Illinois . . . . .	Gilbert W. Barnard, 78 Monroe street, Chicago.
Indiana . . . . .	William H. Smythe, Indianapolis.
Indian Territory . . . . .	Joseph H. Murrow, Atoka.
Iowa . . . . .	Alf. Wingate, Des Moines.
Ireland . . . . .	Samuel B. Oldham, Freemasons' Hall, Dublin.
Kansas . . . . .	Spencer P. Wade, Topeka.
Kentucky . . . . .	H. B. Grant, Louisville.
Louisiana . . . . .	Richard Lambert, New Orleans.
Maine . . . . .	Stephen Berry, Portland.
Maryland . . . . .	George L. McCahan, Baltimore.
Massachusetts . . . . .	Seranus Bowen, 28 School street, Boston.
Michigan . . . . .	Jefferson S. Conover, Coldwater.
Minnesota . . . . .	Thomas Montgomery, St. Paul.
Mississippi . . . . .	J. L. Power, Jackson.
Missouri . . . . .	William H. Mayo, St. Louis.
Montana . . . . .	Cornelius Hedges, Helena.
Nebraska . . . . .	William R. Bowen, Omaha.
Nevada . . . . .	Chauncey N. Noteware, Carson City.
New Brunswick . . . . .	William A. Ewing, St. John.
New Hampshire . . . . .	George P. Cleaves, Concord.
New Jersey . . . . .	George B. Edwards, Jersey City.
New York . . . . .	Christopher G. Fox, Buffalo.
North Carolina . . . . .	Horace H. Munson, Wilmington.
North Dakota . . . . .	Frank J. Thompson, Fargo.
Nova Scotia . . . . .	Alfred Ross, Halifax.
Ohio . . . . .	Charles C. Kiefer, Urbana.
Oregon . . . . .	James F. Robinson, Eugene.
Pennsylvania . . . . .	Charles Cary, Philadelphia.
Quebec . . . . .	Joseph Mitchell, Montreal.
Rhode Island . . . . .	William R. Greene, Providence.
Scotland . . . . .	Robert S. Brown, 11 a Hanover, Edinburgh.
South Carolina . . . . .	J. E. Burke, Charleston.
South Dakota . . . . .	George A. Pettigrew, Flandrau.
Tennessee . . . . .	W. A. Clendening, Nashville.
Texas . . . . .	Robert Brewster, Houston.
Vermont . . . . .	Warren G. Reynolds, Burlington.
Virginia . . . . .	William B. Isaacs, Richmond.
Washington . . . . .	Yancey C. Blalock, Walla Walla.
West Virginia . . . . .	Odell S. Long, Charleston.
Wisconsin . . . . .	John W. Laflin, Milwaukee.
England . . . . .	C. F. Matier, Great Queen street, London.
General Grand Chapter, U.S.A .	Christopher G. Fox, Buffalo, N.Y.

## GRAND HOLY ROYAL ARCH CHAPTER OF PENNSYLVANIA, 1894.

## Its Chapters, Place and Time of Meeting, and Secretaries.

No.	Name.	Constituted in	Place of Meeting.	Time of Meeting.	Name and Address of Secretary.
3	Jerusalem.....	1758	Philadelphia .....	Third Monday.....	Stanislaus Remak, Philadelphia.
21	Perseverance .....	1827	Harrisburg .....	First Monday .....	William H. Smith, Harrisburg.
43		1826	Lancaster .....	Third Thursday .....	Hugh S. Gara, Lancaster.
52	Harmony .....	1794	Philadelphia .....	First Friday .....	John Curtis, Philadelphia.
91	Columbia.....	1822	Philadelphia .....	Third Wednesday .....	J. Alexander Simpson, Philadelphia.
150	Washington .....	1827	Washington .....	First Friday .....	George A. Carsten, Washington.
152	Reading .....	1827	Reading .....	Second Monday .....	Charles H. Armour, Reading.
159	Schuylkill.....	1838	Minersville .....	Thursday on or before full moon.	Henry Hammer, Minersville.
161	Union.....	1845	Towanda .....	Second Wednesday .....	James H. Coddng, Towanda.
162	Zerubbabel.....	1846	Pittsburgh .....	First Tuesday .....	W. T. Reiter, Box 892, Pittsburgh.
163	La Fayette.....	1848	Lock Haven .....	Third Thursday .....	John T. Beardsley, Lock Haven.
164	Brownsville .....	1849	Brownsville .....	Second Tuesday .....	Daniel H. Pearsall, Brownsville.
165	Union.....	1849	Uniontown .....	First Thursday .....	Levi S. Gaddis, Uniontown.
166	Mount Moriah .....	1849	Holidaysburg .....	Third Tuesday .....	John W. Confer, Duncansville.
167	Eureka .....	1849	Rochester .....	Friday after full moon .....	Cornelius Masten, Rochester.
169	Philadelphia.....	1850	Philadelphia .....	Second Wednesday .....	John M. Zook, Philadelphia.
170	Delta .....	1851	New Castle .....	First Tuesday .....	William T. Butz, New Castle.
171	St. John's.....	1852	Carlisle .....	First Thursday .....	Charles F. Shower, Carlisle.
172	Temple .....	1853	Tunkhannock .....	Monday after full moon .....	Draper Billings, Tunkhannock.
173	Easton.....	1853	Easton .....	Third Tuesday .....	Edward B. Arndt, Easton.
174	Northumberland .....	1853	Sunbury .....	Tuesday before full moon .....	Jacob R. Cressinger, Sunbury.
175	Keystone .....	1853	Philadelphia .....	Fourth Monday .....	H. G. O. Ramborger, Philadelphia.
176	Geo. Washington .....	1854	Chambersburg .....	Third Monday .....	A. C. McGrath, Chambersburg.
177	Tamaqua .....	1854	Tamaqua .....	Friday after full moon .....	William Priser, Tamaqua.
178	Catawissa .....	1855	Catawissa .....	Wednesday on or before full moon	Luther B. Kline, M. D., Catawissa.
179	Eureka .....	1855	Carbondale .....	First Friday .....	John M. Stewart, Carbondale.

180	Warren . . . . .	Thursday on or before full moon.	Oliver A. Gilbert, Montrose.
181	Lilly . . . . .	Fourth Tuesday . . . . .	Laird H. Barber, Mauch Chunk.
182	Shekinah . . . . .	Third Monday . . . . .	Alexander E. Winlack, Wilkesbarre.
183	Oriental . . . . .	Third Thursday . . . . .	Stockton Bates, Philadelphia.
184	Lackawanna . . . . .	Second Tuesday . . . . .	C. L. Van Buskirk, Scranton.
185	Lewistown . . . . .	Third Tuesday . . . . .	Robert H. Junkin, Lewistown.
186	Oriental . . . . .	Third Friday . . . . .	Wm. E. Wormald, Conneautville.
187	Mountain . . . . .	First Thursday . . . . .	Timothy Davis, Altoona.
188	Norristown . . . . .	Second Monday . . . . .	Charles Major, Pencoyd P. O.
189	Solomon . . . . .	First Tuesday . . . . .	Alfred G. Church, Meadville.
190	Urania . . . . .	First Thursday after third Tuesday	James C. Shields, Greensburg.
191	Duquesne . . . . .	Second Friday . . . . .	William J. Carson, Pittsburgh.
192	Tioga . . . . .	Thursday on or before full moon.	John W. Mather, Wellsboro'.
193	Portage . . . . .	Fourth Tuesday . . . . .	Benjamin F. Speedy, Johnstown.
194	Mountain City . . . . .	Monday after full moon . . . . .	Charles M. Lewis, Pottsville.
195	Weidle . . . . .	Second Tuesday . . . . .	W. G. Ward, L. B. 226, Lebanon.
196	Phoenix . . . . .	Saturday after full moon . . . . .	Edward T. Plush, Phoenixville.
197	Howell . . . . .	Wednesday after first Monday . . . . .	Thomas Wood, York.
198	Columbus . . . . .	Wednesday on or before full moon	David S. Rowe, Corry.
199	Standing Stone . . . . .	First Tuesday . . . . .	Martin L. Shaffner, Huntingdon.
200	Allen . . . . .	Monday after full moon . . . . .	Charles B. Lear, West Chester.
201	Anthony Wayne . . . . .	Monday on or before full moon . . . . .	Armat W. Lee, Allentown.
202	Factoryville . . . . .	Tuesday on or after full moon . . . . .	William H. Stanton, Honesdale.
203	Harmony . . . . .	Wednesday on or before full moon	J. A. Heller, Factoryville.
204	Aaron . . . . .	First Thursday . . . . .	Job Cook, New Brighton.
205	Germantown . . . . .	Third Friday . . . . .	James W. Graham, Titusville.
206	Samuel C. Perkins . . . . .	Third Monday . . . . .	E. R. Stevens, Germantown, Phila.
207	Great Bend . . . . .	Second Monday . . . . .	George Bobb, Mechanicsburg.
208	Venango . . . . .	Second Thursday . . . . .	Thomas Summerton, Great Bend.
209	Mound . . . . .	Second Thursday . . . . .	C. D. Elliott, Franklin, Venango Co.
210	Greenville . . . . .	Fourth Monday . . . . .	Orson A. Carlin, Greenville.
211	Valley . . . . .	Friday on or before full moon . . . . .	S. U. Shaffer, Plymouth, Luzerne Co.
212	Temple . . . . .	Second Friday . . . . .	George D. Burton, Erie.
213	Zinendorf . . . . .	Second Monday . . . . .	Matthew J. Schmid, Bethlehem.

No.	Name.	Constituted in	Place of Meeting.	Time of Meeting.	Name and Address of Secretary.
217	Allegheny . . . . .	1868	Allegheny . . . . .	First Friday. . . . .	Geo. C. Johnstone, Allegheny City.
218	Bloomsburg . . . . .	1868	Bloomsburg . . . . .	First Wednesday. . . . .	C. F. Knapp, Bloomsburg.
219	Griscom . . . . .	1868	Ashland . . . . .	Third Thursday . . . . .	Albert L. Laubenstein, Ashland.
220	Fort Washington . . . . .	1868	Fort Washington . . . . .	Thursday before full moon . . . . .	Henry Unger, Fort Washington.
221	Tremont . . . . .	1869	Tremont . . . . .	Monday after full moon . . . . .	Benjamin Kaufman, Tremont.
222	Lycoming . . . . .	1869	Williamsport . . . . .	Second Tuesday . . . . .	Wm. Randall Prior, Williamsport.
223	Oxford . . . . .	1870	Oxford . . . . .	Wednesday after full moon . . . . .	Eli McKissick, Oxford.
224	Corinthian . . . . .	1870	Columbia . . . . .	Second Tuesday . . . . .	Andrew J. Kauffman, Columbia.
225	Jefferson . . . . .	1869	Brookville . . . . .	First Monday . . . . .	John M. Van Vliet, Brookville.
226	Siloam . . . . .	1869	Frankford, Phila. . . . .	Third Wednesday . . . . .	S. E. Pendlebury, Frankford, Phila.
227	Emporium . . . . .	1870	Emporium . . . . .	First and Third Wednesdays. . . . .	John D. Logan, Emporium.
228	Clearfield . . . . .	1870	Clearfield . . . . .	Third Friday . . . . .	L. K. McCullough, Clearfield.
229	Newtown . . . . .	1870	Newtown . . . . .	Wednesday after full moon . . . . .	J. M. Jamison, Newtown, Bucks Co.
230	Elk . . . . .	1870	Ridgway . . . . .	Third Tuesday . . . . .	J. M. Schram, Ridgway.
232	St. John. . . . .	1871	Philadelphia . . . . .	First Tuesday . . . . .	Joseph Crockett, Philadelphia.
233	Kensington. . . . .	1871	Philadelphia . . . . .	Fourth Monday . . . . .	William F. Tracy, Philadelphia.
234	Media . . . . .	1871	Media . . . . .	Monday after full moon . . . . .	William Campbell, Media.
235	Occidental. . . . .	1871	Warren . . . . .	Second Monday . . . . .	Robert W. Teese, Warren.
236	Oil City. . . . .	1871	Oil City . . . . .	Third Thursday . . . . .	Henry C. Goldsborough, Oil City.
237	Excelsior . . . . .	1871	Reading. . . . .	First Thursday . . . . .	Thomas E. Weber, Reading.
238	Newport. . . . .	1872	Newport . . . . .	Monday after full moon. . . . .	J. P. Clark, Newport, Perry Co.
239	Danville . . . . .	1872	Danville. . . . .	Third Monday . . . . .	Alexander J. Frick, Danville.
240	Palestine . . . . .	1872	Philadelphia . . . . .	Second Friday . . . . .	Edward R. Marsh, Philadelphia.
241	Bellefonte . . . . .	1872	Bellefonte. . . . .	First Friday . . . . .	John C. Muller, Bellefonte.
242	Pittston . . . . .	1873	Pittston. . . . .	Last Thursday. . . . .	Thomas W. Kyte, West Pittston.
243	T. B. Freeman . . . . .	1873	Philadelphia . . . . .	First Tuesday . . . . .	George M. D. Apple, Philadelphia.
244	Norman. . . . .	1873	Sharon . . . . .	Second Friday. . . . .	John Murchie, Sharon, Mercer Co.
245	Abington . . . . .	1873	Jenkintown . . . . .	Tuesday after full moon. . . . .	Joseph W. Hunter, Jenkintown.
246	Warrior Run . . . . .	1874	Watsonstown . . . . .	Wednesday after full moon. . . . .	Fred A. Reen, Watsonstown.
247	Orient. . . . .	1874	Kittanning. . . . .	Second Monday. . . . .	Harry A. Arnold, Kittanning.
248	Temple . . . . .	1874	Philadelphia . . . . .	Third Tuesday. . . . .	Arthur H. Woodward, Phila.

249	Monongahela.....	1874	Monongahela City.....	Third Thursday.....	Rev. J. P. Norran, Monongahela City.
250	Corinthian .....	1874	Philadelphia .....	First Monday.....	James McCormick, Philadelphia.
251	Signet.....	1874	Philadelphia .....	Third Wednesday.....	Oscar R. Meyers, Philadelphia.
252	Mizpah.....	1875	Mahanoy City.....	Thursday after full moon.....	Phaon Hermann, M. D., Mahanoy City
254	Arnold.....	1877	Port Allegany.....	Second Tuesday.....	James H. Williams, Port Allegany.
255	Bedford.....	1876	Bedford.....	Wednesday after full moon.....	James Cleaver, Bedford.
256	Fernwood.....	1877	Fernwood.....	First Tuesday.....	J. M. Lutz, Upper Darby, Dela. Co.
257	Shiloh.....	1877	Pittsburgh.....	Third Monday.....	George W. Robitzer, Pittsburgh.
258	Chester.....	1877	Chester.....	Last Monday.....	Edward A. Price, Jr., Chester.
259	Eden.....	1878	Knox .....	Second Tuesday.....	Henry S. Lockart, Shippensburg.
260	Bradford.....	1880	Bradford.....	First Thursday.....	Charles P. McAllister, Bradford.
261	Troy .....	1882	Troy.....	Thursday on or before full moon.	Isaac Cleaver, Troy, Bradf'd Co.
262	Montgomery.....	1882	Ardmore.....	Thursday after full moon.	Thomas McCully, Ardmore.
263	Coudersport.....	1882	Coudersport.....	First Wednesday.....	Lalon R. Bliss, Coudersport.
264	Shamokin.....	1883	Shamokin.....	Wednesday before full moon.....	John B. Savidge, Shamokin.
265	Westfield.....	1883	Westfield.....	First Friday.....	James Masten, Westfield.
266	Good Samaritan.....	1886	Gettysburg.....	Third Thursday.....	Dan A. Skelly, Gettysburg.
267	Coatesville .....	1887	Coatesville .....	Tuesday before full moon.....	G. G. Myer, Box 142, Coatesville.
268	Pittsburgh.....	1888	Pittsburgh.....	Second Monday.....	Archie K. Henderson, Pittsburgh.
269	Ulysses.....	1888	Ulysses.....	Second Wednesday.....	Homer K. Lane, Ulysses.
270	Doylestown.....	1889	Doylestown.....	Tuesday on or before full moon.....	J. Evans Zorns, Doylestown.
271	Pottstown.....	1890	Pottstown.....	Third Tuesday .....	Newton S. Kinzer, Pottstown.
272	Hebron.....	1890	Meyersdale.....	Monday after full moon.....	Martin A. Rutter, Meyersdale.
273	Butler.....	1891	Butler.....	Third Tuesday .....	William A. Stein, Butler.
274	Bangor.....	1891	Bangor.....	Fourth Wednesday .....	Robert L. Wagner, Bangor.
275	Kennett .....	1892	Kennett Square .....	Wed. on or bef. 1st $\frac{1}{4}$ of the moon.	George R. Boeman, Kennett Sq.
276	The Susquehanna .....	1892	Susquehanna .....	Second Friday.....	Dr. Geo. W. Gleason, Susquehanna.
277	Hazleton.....	1893	Hazleton.....	Second Monday after full moon .....	J. Milnor Morris, Jeanesville, Pa.

## MARK LODGES.

91	Columbia.....	1825	Philadelphia.....	Second Monday .....	James Bleloch, Philadelphia.
214	Girard .....	1847	Philadelphia.....	Second Tuesday .....	Thomas S. Woodbury, Philadelphia.
216	Excelsior.....	1854	Philadelphia.....	Third Tuesday .....	Charles W. Carns, Philadelphia.

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